

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LXV.]

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BIRTHS.

On May 30th, at Hankow, the wife of F. A. AGLEN, Commissioner of Customs, of a son.

On June 1st, at Siam, the wife of C. M. DE SENNA, of a son.

On June 5th, at Shanghai, the wife of G. F. C. DOBSON, of a son.

DEATHS.

On June 2nd, at Shanghai, CHARLES ANDERSON, late Master at Arms, U. S. Navy, aged 69 years.

On June 3rd, on her way home, SUZANNE (née Brunat), the beloved wife of Paul Albert Schlumberger, of Shanghai. Buried at Sea.

On June 6th, at his residence in Manila, J. F. C. DA ROZA, formerly of Hongkong, aged 75 years. No cards.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The English Mail of 17th May arrived, per the s.s. *Delta*, on Wednesday, the 2th instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The *Gazette* notifies the appointment of Mr. F. J. V. Jorge as vice consul in charge of the Consulate General of the Republic of Panama during the absence on leave of Mr. A. M. Percy.

The carriage of the Italian Minister at Peking drove over a policeman (who subsequently died, on the 30th May; and the Waiwpu is now negotiating on the matter with the minister.

According to an extract of meteorological observations made at the Hongkong Observatory the average maximum temperature for the month of May was 80.6, and the minimum 73.0 deg. The total rainfall for the month was 11.280 inches.

H.E. the Officer Administering the Government has been pleased to appoint Mr. F. G. Figg to act as Director of the Observatory during the absence on leave of Dr. W. Dobereck; Mr. D. W. Trafman to be a member of the New Territories Land Court; and Mr. R. G. McEwen, first class Sanitary inspector to be a plague inspector in succession to Mr. W. H. Woolley, promoted.

Only a few days before two Chinese who had been enticed on board the *Ajax* bound for Singapore leaped overboard in the Sulphur Channel and were nearly drowned before they were picked up by the Harbour Master's launch. Curiously enough a similar incident took place on June 8th at almost the same place. It is not known from which vessel he threw himself, but he was found by the Y.M.C.A. bathing party in an exhausted state, not far from the stranded *Choising*. Though he could swim he must have been in the water a considerable time, as he was completely exhausted when rescued. He stated that when he found himself being taken to Singapore against his will he jumped overboard. As is well known the recruiting for emigrants is attended with grave abuses here.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King, to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 3 of 1907.—An Ordinance to authorize the Appropriation of a Supplementary Sum of four hundred and seventy-seven thousand eight hundred and forty-nine dollars and fifty-three cents, to defray the charges of the Year 1906. Ordinance No. 4 of 1907.—An Ordinance to remove doubts as to the validity of the proceedings of the Supreme Court of this Colony during the time that Alfred Gascoyne Wise, Esquire held the office of Puisne Judge of such Court from the 25th day of June down to the present time. Ordinance No. 5 of 1907.—An Ordinance to amend the Married Women's Property Ordinance, 1906.

The result of the working of all the Japanese cotton spinning companies for the present half-year, which is about to close, is given as being unprecedentedly satisfactory. According to the *Asahi* the cotton spinners, who have had a most prosperous season this year, are quite prepared for the inevitable reaction sooner or later. The spinners, who have gone through many years of bitter experience, have made ample provision during the prosperous time which began the year before last by placing aside ample reserves. During the recent business boom, however, agitations were stated among the shareholders of spinning companies for an increase in the rates of dividend, and it was feared at one time that the foundations of the various concerns might be threatened. At the present time, as the result of the collapse of the share market, the attitude of the shareholders has undergone a change and they are now adopting a practical line of policy. Not a few companies are in the position of being able to pay a dividend for the present half-year at the rate of over 100 per cent. per annum, but the Board of Directors of such companies have decided to place as large an amount as practicable to reserve. The Boards of Directors of the Amagasaki and Settsu spinning companies have decided to limit their dividends to 50 per cent.; the Goto, Fukushima and Kishiwada spinning companies each to 30 per cent., and the Kanegaruchi and Osaka Spinning companies to 20 per cent. each.

The trouble in the neighbourhood of Swatow is at an end and the soldiers who were sent to the district from Canton are expected to return home almost immediately. It has been remarked in Swatow that these troops appear to be under a stricter discipline than is usually associated with Chinese troops. On the 4th instant, a soldier was beheaded at Swatow for "disgracing his uniform," by committing an indecent assault on a married woman. When the last mail left Swatow, the Japanese cruiser *Naniwa*, was in the harbour, and it seemed likely that she would be compelled to remain there some days waiting for a sufficiently high tide to enable her to get out over the bar.

The Victoria Recreation Club has its annual meeting on the 19th inst. Messrs. R. W. Pearson, F. Lammert, and L. A. Musso, as Boat-house sub-Committee, report that boats to the value of \$3,200 were lost in the September typhoon. They recommend that only pair-oars be built for the present. Messrs. N. H. Alves, J. W. Bains, and R. W. Pearson, as Bath-house sub-Committee, dwell on the success of the night fête, and suggested the possibility of an interport swimming fixture. Messrs. W. Logan, J. A. S. Alves, and H. M. Harrop, as gymnasium sub-Committee, said that the jujitsu class had to be abandoned owing to language difficulties. Messrs. E. M. Hazeland, M. A. A. Souza, and M. McIver as Har sub-Committee report that stock worth \$133.78 was lost in the typhoon. Nevertheless the balance of profit on the season was good, \$325.38. The accounts were audited by Mr. H. Murray Bain, as presented by Mr. S. A. Seth, hon. treasurer.

Returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st May 1907, as certified by the managers of the respective banks, are as under:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.....	\$ 3,197,791	\$ 2,300,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	13,857,281	9,500,000
National Bank of China, Ltd.	213,973	100,000
Total	17,269,045	11,900,000

THE NIPPON YUSEN K ISHA.

The 34th report of this Company said:—The Directors submit to you the annexed Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Company, and the profit and loss account for the half-year, ended March 31st, 1907. The gross profits of the Company for the past half-year amount to yen 2,960,736, out of which there has been paid: Depreciation of the Company's fleet Yen 828,321 and property .. 356,119 Insurance fund .. 495,751 Ships' Structural Repair Fund .. 163,022

leaving a balance of Yen 2,054,726, including Yen 774,212 brought forward from the last account. The Directors now propose that Yen 64,25 be added to the Reserve Fund, raising it to Yen 2,447,049; and that Yen 71,358 be allowed a Directors' and Auditors' fee. From the remainder the Directors recommend a Dividend at the rate of ten per cent., together with two per cent. as Special Dividend, thus making twelve per cent., per annum, which will absorb Yen 1,320,000. The balance, Yen 5,934,2, will be carried forward to the next account.

JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

(Daily Press, 10th June).

The Japanese are evidently not having an easy task in their endeavours to introduce something in the form of law and order among the unruly inhabitants of Formosa. According to a book written by Mr. TAKEKOSHI, a member of the Japanese Diet, which has formed the subject of some notice, it would seem that any attempt at establishing a system of civilized law into the country would be completely hopeless and the only thing to do has been to make a compromise and to deal with the natives according to their own customs, as far as it is possible to administer them. To this system, however, Mr. TAKEKOSHI is somewhat strongly opposed, and he has expressed his hope that it may be possible to do away with it at an early date. This view of the subject is natural on the part of one who has an acquaintance with the principles of civilized law; but at the same time it will probably be found desirable to adhere to the plan which has been adopted and not to attempt to improve upon it, by any too rapid or violent changes. Experience in other places has proved that it is possible under circumstances similar to those existing in Formosa, to administer justice in a fair and equitable manner, while adopting many of the customs of an inferior race. The plan is not by any means new. Indeed it is as old as the Roman Empire, where law was wisely administered, among the conquered nations, largely according to the customs which they recognised, tempered, however, as far as possible by the more advanced principles of Roman jurisprudence. The same plan has been resorted to in India and in some of the British Colonies, and has been found to work satisfactorily. It speaks well for the statesmanly instincts of the Japanese that they should have seen the advantage of making use of this stepping stone to a more satisfactory system when the time for its adoption shall have arrived. There would seem no reason to doubt that it may be as satisfactorily worked in Formosa as it has been elsewhere. The great advantage of such a system is that it has the support of the natives themselves; and that, by adopting it, it is possible to obtain the natives' concurrence in carrying it out. In Formosa the natives are generally spoken of as savages, and unfortunately the term applies in its strictest sense to a portion of them, the hill tribes who regularly live on plunder, and among whom no one's life is safe. But there is a large portion of natives, who though of a low scale of civilisation, are not completely savage. They at least have certain recognised customs by means of which a rough kind of justice is maintained among themselves; and it is well worth while making the attempt to use these as a basis upon which the Courts may act in settling their disputes and maintaining order.

Of course there are limits beyond which a system of this kind cannot be carried; and it is the part of those who have to apply it to see that no custom manifestly unjust is acted upon. There is at first some difficulty in ascertaining with accuracy what really are the customs, but this difficulty is usually got over by consulting the persons who are recognised by the people themselves as authorities on this subject. This is the plan which is resorted to in certain cases in India and which has long been adopted with success in the Colony of Natal. Indeed a judge well informed upon general principles of jurisprudence, can without difficulty grasp the

effective meaning of such customs even though they come to him in a foreign shape, and often he can by his judgments properly explained to the natives, gradually modify them and improve upon them where they require alteration without entirely ignoring them. By this means the natives are by degrees brought to sympathise with the principles of a more enlightened jurisprudence without having their prejudices roused by seeing cherished customs altogether set aside. It is not unnatural that men who have been imbued with more advanced ideas are inclined to set aside such customs altogether; but experience proves that such drastic measures are likely to lead to disappointment and possibly to trouble. Much may be done, as above pointed out, by a gradual modification of the principles upon which a half civilised and subject people have long proceeded. In the main such customs are really a first attempt at securing the main principles of justice; and with a little tact and skill they can be brought more and more into accord with those of civilised nations.

THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

(Daily Press 11th June).

That the Imperial Conference of the Colonial Premiers was not altogether a success is undeniable, and to account for this there were doubtless more than one sufficient reason. Perhaps of all these the most efficient was the fact that however of late the individual members tried to disguise it, the Government presided over by Sir HENRY CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN was distinctly out of sympathy with the movement. Still the little that was done was on the whole satisfactory, so far as it went, and that may be accepted as much as could be expected considering the antecedents of His Majesty's present administration. As a matter of fact, indeed, it was only the universal display of a public opinion in favour of the objects of the Conference that at the last moment determined the Little Englanders of the Government to allow their preconceived ideas of centrifugalism to remain for the nonce, at least, in abeyance. Another potent factor was doubtless that dislike to innovation, and a prevailing desire to safeguard the first step, which is instinctive in the race, and which prevails through the Colonies to an even wider degree than at home; and which with the principal Colonial premiers, and more especially with Sir WILFRED LAURIER led to a hesitancy about the very first step that seemed contrary to his usual quickness of grasp. Two important things with regard to the future of the Conference have, however, been settled; the first of this is that it is to be abiding and not sporadic; the second, that it is to be Imperial and not merely Colonial, and as such to be presided over by the Premier of England as senior, and not by an elected President, nor by the head of the Foreign Office, whose status as chief only of a subordinate office must carry less weight than that of the head of the Government of the day. The first of these carries with it the intimation that the British Premier sits as *primus inter pares*, not as one outside whose authority was exoteric. It was evident that behind all there was a feeling of reserve on the part of the Colonial representatives, not altogether without justification from history, that beneath the shadow of what was proposed to be called a "Council" there lay hidden the germs of what might at some time or other be available for interfering with that autonomy of action which the direct conduct of the Home

Government had raised into a colonial tradition. Even without going back to the lamentable results of the Georgian policy of Colonial Taxation, there were later episodes that seemed to indicate that the wishes and interests of the Colonies were not always paramount in the minds of home statesmen, and examples as in the Newfoundland fishery affair, where Colonial wishes were deliberately set aside, without even the courteous preliminary of saying "By your leave, Gentlemen", were not likely to increase the confidence of the Colonies in a British Council. Thoughts like these were evidently at the bottom of the seemingly needless declaration that no resolutions of the Conference should have executive authority, and show how very far still the Empire is from practical confederation. In fact the home country will have much to do to compensate for the backway made within the last eighteen months by the Government of all the talents. Perhaps after all it is best so, for if the Conference had been held under Mr. BALFOUR's Administration by which it had been arranged, many of these safeguards since found necessary would have been neglected, and an entirely wrong opinion of the functions and powers of the home Ministry of the day caused a disastrous break up when first the Conference met to discuss real business.

Fortunately, too perhaps, the late Conference has had nothing more important to discuss than preferential Tariffs. Here the Conference was sure to come at cross purposes with the present Government, but the effect, notwithstanding the attitude of the Government has been on the whole satisfactory, and there is no doubt that the opposition to a reform of the Tariffs as between the Home Land and the Colonies has sensibly weakened. Most of the Home constituencies had never, in fact, heard the subject discussed outside the Hustings, where of course each party confined itself in great measure to its party cries of the day. To hear the subject spoken to and discussed by statesmen altogether outside the ring of mere English politics was to the majority of people in England a new revelation. To the Premier of the Commonwealth the effect of the discussion on the intimate relations of Unionist, Liberal, or Radical was of no interest whatever; its effect on the Empire at large, and the relations between the Home country and the Commonwealth were all that concerned him in his representative character, and that he should have spoken on this subject with no half-hearted reservation will be accepted throughout the Home country as a clear indication that there is something more in the policy urged by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN than the experts of the Cobden Club would have the people of the British Islands believe.

Another subject of interest discussed at the Conference cannot be passed over in the most superficial review without notice, and that is the by no means satisfactory condition in which the Permanent Secretariat has been arranged. From the general drift of the discussions it was apparently intended that it should form an entirely independent section of Government, free from party control. This under the system in the end hurriedly adopted is only very partially the case. It is, in fact, to be merely a section of the Colonial Office, and responsible to the Colonial Secretary for the time being. It is true the scheme was left unfinished, and what is perhaps more to the purpose, there was no precedent to go on. The very essence of an Imperial Department is that it should be entirely outside of party politics, but probably the step was too wide

to take all at once; and the present device was acknowledged as at best a stop-gap to be properly constituted when experience had shown the needs of the post. Most reasonable men in the Empire are thoroughly sick of the absurd lengths to which the practice of party Government has been carried, and it seems a pity that of this, the first opportunity that has presented itself for a long time of bettering the position, more advantage has not been taken.

IMAGINATION.

(Daily Press, 12th June.)

A casual remark sometimes made by a bystander observing a procession of Chinese coolies leads to reflections on the subject of imagination. These patient labourers, laughing and chattering amongst themselves, frequently prompt foreigners who have some idea of their lot to wonder at their apparent happiness. Working hard day after day for twenty cents or less, procuring thereby only the meagrest portion of the barest necessities, how can they afford to laugh? The foreigner, in comparison with them surfeited with luxuries, has his lines of care, and perhaps in the midst of worrying over something or other, remarks the cheerfulness of the coolie. They are "better off" than he is, he concludes, and says something platitudinal about the complexities of civilization and the advantages of the Simple Life. "We cry for things we imagine we need," one such person said the other day, and one of his words seemed arrestive. Was there a clue in the word "imagination"? A form of reproach not uncommon is to say of a person that he lacks imagination. Imagination, it is generally understood, is a quality of the higher civilization. Its possession in a marked degree denotes status: its possessor is one of the highest products of evolution: if manifested in art, his "gift" makes him a genius. It is talked of as "the gift", be it noted, and none question its value. Can it be that the popular estimate is too sweeping—that there is another side of the shield to betray the disadvantages of imagination? If we turn to the Bible, with its score of references to the faculty, we find that other side of the shield exclusively pictured. It is always vain or wicked. In no instance is the human imagination cited therein as in anyway a good quality. SHAKESPEARE, as he always does, notices many sides.

"The lunatic, the lover, and the poet
Are of imagination all compact."

The imaginations of the lunatic we can guess at. We call them hallucinations, but both words fit. There is really little need for the hairsplitting definitions of CRABB, TRENCH, and other precisians of that gender. The imaginations of the lover, also, we describe as pleasing fancies, and predict that his anticipatory images will breed disappointment. The imagination of the poet is the particular kind that has led to the popular and indiscriminating esteem for the faculty. It is a source of intellectual elevation, leading to a mental Parnassus. Scientifically, psychologically, we know that the word is misleading. There is really no such thing. What we call imagination, even in its noblest forms, becomes, under analysis, a mere mosaic of conceptions derived from experience, from perceptions of previous actualities. Thus MILTON's great imagery of the unquenchable lake of fire, grand as it is from a literary point of view, is to the psychologist no more than an exaggerated concept founded on experiences of little earthly conflagrations. The pain and dread that particular fancy or

imagination has caused to countless thousands of worthy people serves to bring us back to the point that the faculty of imagination may not be always a source of happiness to the average human being. Some such idea as that which caused WHITMAN to remark that the beasts of the field do not lie awake at night thinking of their sins seems possible in the case of our illustrative coolies. Do they maintain their cheerfulness because they have less imagination than those who envy them? The suggestion is not implausible. Certainly many of us suffer from a too lively imagination. If it be of the anticipatory pleasant kind, it is not worth the certainty of later disillusion; if it be unpleasant, we are not compensated for the preliminary dread by the subsequent dissipation of the bogie. This latter kind of imagination is very common, and we must add to SHAKESPEARE's list of the lunatic, lover, and poet, the coward. Elsewhere, indeed, the bard has noted that individual's form of imagination as when into the mouth of CAESAR he puts the words, "Towards die many times before their deaths." The thousand little worries of ordinary daily life may many of them be included in the category. The shadows that harbinger coming events are always bigger than their cause. The imagined trouble of to-morrow is greater than the positive discomfort of to-day. We are perturbed over things that do not matter because we imagine they may or will matter. The so-called "gift" of imagination makes the heir to a legacy unhappy in showing him a dozen ways in which he may lose his inheritance; it curses the healthy man with vivid impressions of possible infections; it peoples the dark, the unknown, with horrid creatures; and though we cannot deny the "pleasures of imagination," it seems we must emphasise its sorrows also. The rose of imagination, in short, has its thorns; and there is the temptation to envy the coolie who, if he enjoy not the fragrance and colour of the flowers, at least seems able to ignore the prickles.

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

(Daily Press, 13th June.)

It is a curious coincidence that at the time when the Chinese took steps to study Western Institutions and sent a Commission to Europe to obtain information as to their working, more especially in regard to Representative Government, a movement should have taken shape, which of all others is calculated to make the Celestial mind sceptical as to the advantages to be derived from their adoption. The idea of women taking any practical part in the government of the country—the Empress Dowager always excepted—must seem to the Chinese the acme of absurdity. If any members of the Commission happened to be in the House of Commons, when it was besieged by the suffragists, they must indeed have felt reason to congratulate themselves upon having ocular demonstration of what the introduction of Western institutions is likely to lead to. That the most august political assembly in the Kingdom should be invaded by a screaming body of advanced women demanding the suffrage, so far as the attentions of the Police would allow their voices to be heard, must have appeared the queerest of all the queer things that the Chinese have ever heard of on the part of the outer barbarians. Fancy such an invasion of a Chinese Council or Yamen! The thing is absolutely unthinkable, and it is this is the logical conclusion of recognising the rights of the people, the Commissioners would probably deem themselves justified in

recommending that they should be left severely alone.

The women's voting question however still attracts a great deal of discussion and bids fair to become a standing dish during the silly season. The subject is one open to so much high sounding platitude on the one side and to so much superficial "chaff" on the other, that it is difficult to get people to look upon it in its plain practical light. The object of giving certain persons a vote for Parliamentary representatives is broadly speaking two-fold—to secure first that the Government of the country shall be in conformity with the wishes of the large majority and secondly that the best talent may be obtained for carrying on the Government. Upon neither of these grounds can it be said that cause has been shown for so momentous a change as the suffragists and "suffragettes" are clamouring to see introduced. That the positions of women both legally and politically has up to recent times been anomalous is not to be denied. This was only a result of the old ideas partly of Roman and partly of Feudal origin which have formed so important an element in the history not only of Britain but of all European nations. These ideas however have been largely modified in recent times and in our own country have practically almost ceased to exist. In respect to women, legislation of late years has been markedly in their favour. Their eligibility for election on School Boards is a notable instance of this as regards their political and social status; while the Married Women's Property Act of 1882 did away with the last remnant of anything in the form of subjection of women either as to their personal powers or as to their property. There is, therefore, no cause for complaint that the rights and interests of women are disregarded by Parliaments elected by mere men—nor indeed has any such ground been taken up—the complaint being that women are not recognised as on an equality with the other sex. This, in a certain sense, is no doubt true, but it is so only in respect to the particular matter of voting—not as to their rights and status generally.

A consideration, however, of the reasons why voting power should be granted must make it plain that there is ample grounds why women should not have the vote. This will be so at least as long as society continues to be constituted as it is. Whatever may be the state of matters if women, as is possible, take a very much larger part in the business side of life than at present, as long as men have the onus and responsibility of the conduct of the particular kind of work which in the aggregate makes up the active life of the State, it is obvious that their voice should have a preponderating influence on the manner in which the State is to be governed. The instincts which have been evolved by centuries of business and working habits in connection with the hard matters of life, to say nothing of their daily duties of dealing with such matters often on a very large scale, fit men more or less for taking part in the larger questions of State—while the more retired life, which, even in these advanced days, is still considered the chief sphere of women's activity, does not give them that experience in dealing with the kind of business that has to be grappled with by those upon whom the responsibility of governing the State devolves. If women generally speaking had experience of the ordinary rough business of life, if the bulk of them conducted mercantile establishments and became directors of large shipping Insurance and other

companies, they would, each in her own sphere, get something of the knowledge and training which fit men to the business of the State. All experience proves that mere book knowledge of such matters is not only insufficient but often dangerous, and this is the most that the best informed of women are likely to attain to so long as the chief sphere of their interests must of necessity lie in their homes and in social questions which naturally come within their cognisance. In their own sphere women not only have all the rights of men, but a great deal more, and the advanced persons who wish to claim the rights of men, will do well to consider how much of the privileges of women they will have to sacrifice in order to obtain them.

There is also another practical bearing of the subject which should not be overlooked. If women had the vote in a country like Great Britain, there would always be a danger of a Government being either returned or ousted by some sensational cry, which would appeal to women's feelings to the exclusion of all other and possibly much more important considerations. We have seen enough of the working of this principle in the part which the false reports about Chinese slavery in the Transvaal played in the last election. Any topic of that kind, worked up in a way which would appeal to the female imagination, would be sufficient to command a large number of their votes, and there would thus be more danger, even than there is at present (which is assuredly enough) that by some similar catchwords of a taking character the female vote might be caught without any reference to or consideration of much more important issues that might be involved in a change of Government. We have had warning enough of this contingency as the franchise now stands, and will certainly do well to hesitate to introduce a radical change for which there is no real call, which will undoubtedly have the effect of increasing this danger.

JAPANESE COMMENTS ON ENGLAND.

(Daily Press, 14th June).

If to see ourselves as others see us be occasionally a good thing, we would like to see more of the kind of articles that have lately figured in the *Daily Mail*. In that increasingly popular auxiliary of the British breakfast table, Mr. K. SUGIMURA, special correspondent of the Tokyo *Asahi*, has been giving his impressions of England and English ways. It is somewhat of a bracing douche, for instance, especially to Britons residing in China, to read that England is a slave to "old custom." The Japanese observer remarks: "If I were asked the thing that has impressed me most here I would reply the strength—sometimes the tyranny—of the Unwritten Law. Custom seems to rule absolutely in this country to an extent unknown and unimagined by me before. Custom limits the action of people more absolutely in England than strict written legislation does in my own land. The Unwritten Law of England controls from the very great to the exceedingly little, and all men bow to it. I find that my dress, the colour of my purse, and the colour of the very travelling bag I carry are decided for me by public opinion." His illustrations are sometimes forced, but here again he unwittingly helps us to see ourselves, for we are irresistibly led to suspect that similar weaknesses must be noted in foreign notes about Far Eastern peoples.

Things farfetched and half understood are the weapons common to the globetrotter of all nations. As a matter of fact, with regard to fashion and dress conventions, Mr. SUGIMURA errs only in imagining that Japan is free from them. On the subject of English servants and their familiar way of speaking, Mr. SUGIMURA shares the same disadvantage as the foreign visitor to Japan. He did not discover the true type. The globetrotter's essay on Japanese servants takes cognisance only of the species that has evolved to wait upon his kind, and this Japanese visitor's ideas of the English servant were evidently based on experiences of the waiter in a London chop-house. It is true he met another kind, but he has no complaint to make of the butler's manners. They must have been irreproachable. The incident is well worth repeating:

One evening I visited a certain house and rang the bell. A gentleman came to the door and opened it. He was dressed in evening clothes; he was quite a fine-looking fellow, and spoke English very fluently, and he must have been an Englishman. I took off my hat in deference. I bowed very low, in Japanese fashion (for in my country we often bow like a carpenter's measure), then I held out my hand to shake hands with him. I, of course, thought that he was an honoured member of the household. Imagine what was my chagrin when I afterwards found that he was a butler!

Our critic waxes a little superior occasionally, as when he discovers that the English fad of the moment is the immemorial custom of Japan. The "fresh air" cure? Japan has believed in pneumotherapy for the past 2,500 odd years. And so on. He rightly condemns the over-furnishing of the English living room, but then, English writers have already dwelt on that, and the Japanese are just as much slaves to lumber, only they stow it away differently. On the subject of women and clothes, there will arise many to say that Mr. SUGIMURA has scored a bull. They will say it as if jestingly, but with an undertone of earnestness. Mr. SUGIMURA the intrepid hints that "it is possible English ladies would gain more than they lost if they devoted more time to home-affairs." He is shocked by their affecting the kimono, doubtless because they wear it wrongly, but he firmly condemns the big hat and the trailing skirt, and to him, evening frocks are indecent.

"Corsets have been so much discussed that I shall not deal with them, except to state my hope that it will be a long time before they come into general use in Japan. If I have gone too far in what I say, and if my readers find anything offensive in my frank speech, kindly remember that I am a stranger, knowing nothing of your social etiquette."

He thinks that even good wives are too familiar with their husbands, in England. He prefers the Japanese fashion. "We think in Japan that the husband is greater than the wife, and that the wife should do him reverence and pay him respect. We have many good arguments to support us in so thinking, but this is not the place to advance them." What will he say when he sees a mob of suffragettes?

Mr. J. F. C. da Roza, whose death is announced in our obituary column, was the last survivor of the forty Portuguese heroes in the memorable Passaiaad victory. He resided in Hongkong for over 50 years, was for many years a director of the Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd., and was the original member of the Club Lusitano. He was also a prominent figure in the Stockbrokers' Association of Hongkong. In 1901, deceased left the Colony to open a cigar factory in Manila, but returned here in May.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 13th instant in the Council Chamber.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT, Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.

MAJOR-GENERAL R. G. BROADWOOD, C.B., A.C.D.

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. C. McL. MESSER (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY (Captain-Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.

Hon. Mr. H. KESWICK.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and confirmed.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Acting Governor, laid on the table the report of the Registrar-General for the year 1906.

QUESTIONS.

The HON. DR. HO KAI—I beg to put the questions standing in my name.

The questions were as under:—

(1) What steps does the Government propose to take, and when, in regard to carrying out the recommendations of the Public Health and Building Ordinance Commission?

(2) If the Government does not propose to carry out the recommendations of the Commission *in toto*, which of such recommendations does the Government propose not to carry out?

(3) Will the Government make a statement of what they propose to do with regard to the recommendations of the Commission?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied as follows:

(1) A precis is laid on the table showing how Government has dealt with certain of the recommendations, how it proposes to deal with others, and how many are still under consideration.

(2) An Ordinance amending the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance will be necessary and steps are being taken to prepare one. It is impossible at present to fix a definite date for its introduction.

(3) Recommendations that do not require an amendment of the Law and which are approved will be carried out as soon as possible having regard to the circumstances in each case.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded. In doing so he said—In connection with this the question of compensation may arise and I beg to lay on the table a copy of the petition presented to the Governor by landlords with regard to compensation under the Bill of 1902 which subsequently became law in 1903. From this it will be seen that the landowners were perfectly well satisfied with all the concessions except one which was subsequently granted.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, Before I put the question to the Council concerning the passing of the first reading of this Bill I would beg leave to make a few remarks. I shall not be altogether in order in so doing but perhaps the Council will grant me the indulgence in the present circumstances. This is the first instalment of the legislation which will become necessary owing to the recommendations made by the Commissioners who have inquired into the administration of the Sanitary Department. I trust that this Bill and the precis of those recommendations containing the proposals of the Government thereon will be

accepted as an earnest of the fact that the Government propose to deal thoroughly and honestly with the report of the Commissioners. It would appear, gentlemen, recently what I may call the domestic-political atmosphere has been somewhat surcharged with electricity. It would seem as if the impression was abroad that the Government did not propose to deal in a sympathetic manner with the recommendations of the Commissioners. Now, gentlemen, I would beg to remind you that the report of the Commissioners criticises in a scathing manner a department for the administration of which the Government is more or less responsible. It fell to the lot of certain officers to reply to those criticisms and in their turn to criticise. It happened that the officers upon whom the duty fell represented the Rose, the Shamrock and the Thistle. Now, I need hardly remind you that if you roughly handle the rose or the thistle they are bound to prick you. As for that innocent little plant, the shamrock, is it not the emblem of a race which is not accustomed to sit down silently under a grievance? The Government consider that in this matter they have somewhat of a grievance, for the report of the Commissioners charges them in fact with adopting an unsympathetic attitude on what I may call their plague policy towards the Chinese population. Well, gentlemen, having received a broadside from the Commissioners and having returned that broadside we are now only too anxious to consider in the most sympathetic manner the recommendations and suggestions which the Commissioners have made. (Applause.) I indicated as much in the few remarks I made at the opening of this session but somehow or other these remarks seem to have been forgotten or in the heat of controversy they have been discounted. Amongst the several recommendations and suggestions by the Commissioners there is one to which I would like to refer at some little length. That is the question of cubicles. Now, gentlemen, that is a most important subject, for it touches the living accommodation of the poorer classes of the Chinese community. I have during the last few months, since my return from leave, devoted a great deal of time and a great deal of thought to this question. I have studied it not in my office in an arm-chair but by going out into the town and revisiting blocks of houses with which I have been well acquainted during the last fourteen years owing to the opportunities offered to me while I was in the police, while I worked in two plague epidemics, and while I was a member of the Sanitary Board. The result of my inspection, I would like to say here, is that I find that the town as a whole is in a far more sanitary condition just now than ever I have known it before. I think that a great deal of credit for this fact is due to the Sanitary Board, to the officers who had the direct control of the sanitary staff, and to the sanitary staff itself, and last but not least to the Chinese community who have learned to appreciate the value of keeping thoroughly clean their own domestic dwellings. But my inspection proved to me one thing, and that is that the existing law relating to cubicles has failed. (Hear, hear, and applause.) We hoped, gentlemen, those who sat around this table for many weeks considering that Ordinance, No. 1 of 1903 and No. 23 of 1903, that by prohibiting cubicles in new houses we should force landowners to put up a more sanitary type of dwelling. I may tell you that our hopes are woefully disappointed. The sort of thing that happens is this. Houses have to be rebuilt: architects send in plans to us showing the old deep funneled shaped type of house lighted fore and aft but not at the side with which we are familiar. I received one of these plans not long ago myself and we wrote to the architect on behalf of the owner. We said we beg to remind you that when these houses are built cubicles will not be allowed on the floors. The architect wrote back in polite terms "you mind your own business. The cubicles are regulated by the law and we know the law as well as you." What will be the fate of those houses? The owner will let them to another man who will sub-let them by the floor. The lessees of the floors, if the floors are inhabited as tenement dwellings, will sub-let them to a number of different families.

As soon as the families come in they will put up cubicles. In comes the sanitary inspector, down go the cubicles. Out goes the sanitary inspector up go the cubicles again. And so this kind of Sisyphean jugglery goes on. You never really get rid of these cubicles. After a time along comes an epidemic and some Europeans are attacked by the disease. There is an immediate outcry "what is the negligent Government doing? Why don't they clear out these hotbeds of disease?" The hotbeds are then cleared out. An interval of some years elapses during which plague is checked but trade gets very bad and things are depressed. Then the same people come forward and say "These Government officials are well named blighters, for they blight the whole land by their unreasonable regulations. Whoever hear of asking the Chinese families to live without cubicles?" So the sordid story goes on to the end of the chapter. Now, gentlemen, I am perfectly convinced that you will have this cubicle question with you as long as you live, unless you take steps to force the owners of property to put up sanitary houses in which cubicle like rooms can be built in which Chinese families can decently live. I believe such can be done without loss. We have made proposals under which a larger number of people will be allowed to inhabit decently sanitary houses than were allowed under the old type. I am in great hopes that the community as a whole will take this subject into their most serious consideration and try to arrive this time at some method of dealing with this question which will really settle it once of all. It is a very serious matter and affects the prosperity of the Colony. Plague means loss of money, but there are other epidemics of disease besides plague to be thought of, and as long as an insanitary type of house is allowed to be built ad infinitum, one insanitary type of house to replace another that has gone before it, there will never be any permanent improvement. Gentlemen, I have made these few remarks because I consider that of all the points that have been brought forward in the report of the Commission there is no point which has a greater bearing on the prosperity of the Colony than this question of the housing of the Chinese population.

The HON. MR. HEWETT—Your Excellency, with your permission I would like to make a few remarks in reply to what you have just said and also in regard to the paper laid on the table this afternoon. If I am not in order you will no doubt inform me of the fact and I will then give notice of what I propose to say later on.

There being no reply,

The HON. MR. HEWETT continued—Your Excellency has spoken generally on the wording of the report. I can only say as a member of this Council and of the late Commission I am only too glad to receive the assurances that the recommendations which presumably were made in the interests of the community at large will receive the fullest possible sympathy of the Government. There are a few points to which I would like to refer. The first is the paper No. 24, a copy of which has been laid on the table and which includes a copy of the letter dated 3rd December, 1902, addressed to His Excellency Sir Henry Blake by Mr. Shelton Hooper. That letter, as your Excellency will remember, was specially referred to in your memorandum on the report of the Commission. Considerable attention was directed in that memorandum to the statements then made by Mr. Shelton Hooper. Having been a member of the Commission, of which he was also a member, I very naturally asked him how it came about that he had signed, along with other members of the Commission, the recommendations which were contained in the body of report in view of that letter. Mr. Hooper explained to me that the letter was written under a misapprehension, consequently what I am about to say takes the form of a personal explanation on behalf of him as one of my colleagues on the late Commission. I trust I shall be allowed therefore on behalf of Mr. Hooper to make an explanation showing that he has been perfectly consistent throughout in what he has written. As Your Excellency will remember when the draft bill No. 1 of 1903 was put before the public the principal landowners in Hongkong, including about twelve

firms, asked a certain number of architects to make a report, paragraph by paragraph on this bill. This was done. These landowners subsequently forwarded a petition to the Governor dated 28th September, 1902, enclosing a copy of the report of these architects. In the draft bill paragraph 17th, which is now paragraph 175, one of the most contentious in the existing Ordinance, contained reference to open spaces (reads) The criticism by the committee was that if these words "by the owner" were interpreted then compensation must be insisted upon. Section 175, now section 181 of the existing Ordinance, also spoke of compensation with regard to back lanes and so forth. As originally drafted no provision was made for compensation but on the representations of certain property owners words were incorporated in subsection 3 section 175 (now 181) providing that the amount of compensation to be paid to the owner should be determined by arbitration. At the time Mr. Hooper wrote the letter, December 3rd, 1902, it was only about six weeks after the petition had been forwarded to the Governor—that was before the final draft had been passed by the Council—in any case about a month before that bill became law. Mr. Hooper in writing to Sir Henry Blake referred to the same question of compensation and it was perfectly true that he made use of the words quoted by your Excellency in your memorandum. (Reads) Mr. Hooper tells me that when he wrote that letter through a misconception which he regrets, he was not thoroughly conversant with the new Bill before it was finally passed. When he wrote that letter he was under the impression that the Government had honestly and loyally adopted the recommendations put forward in the report which had been drawn up at the instance of the landowners. That is Mr. Hooper's explanation. I think it is only right that your Excellency should have given me, as you have done, the opportunity of making a personal explanation in this chamber in view of the great publicity and considerable weight attached to the letter of Mr. Shelton Hooper, which he tells me was written under a misapprehension. He would not have written what he did had he realised that the compensation which owners had so strongly insisted on upon and was only their just due had been eliminated or rather had not been adopted. This is the explanation and I beg to thank Your Excellency for allowing me to make it. I do not think that it was quite right that the Government should take advantage and make capital out of a letter written in a moment of misconception by a gentleman who had some five years later been a member of the Commission. With regard to Your Excellency's remarks generally I can only say that no doubt there will be full opportunity given to honourable members before long to discuss the report and the papers bearing upon it. That being so it is quite unnecessary to reply this afternoon in detail to what Your Excellency has said. There is one point however to which I must refer. We gratefully accept the assurance by Your Excellency that the Government are prepared to receive the report in a sympathetic manner. I trust that that will be proved by facts but I can only say that judging by the official papers which have been laid before this Council I fail to see any real sympathy on the part of the Government towards this report. The gentlemen who collaborated with me in this report and myself spent a great deal of time—far longer than we had any idea of when we were called upon to act, amounting to nearly a year—in seriously considering one of the most important questions that have arisen in this Colony for a great number of years and which practically affects not only the Government but every single resident. Clearly therefore when such an important question was brought up there should be no question of parochial, or party politics or whatever you like to call it. It should be the sincere wish of all those engaged in considering the report to treat it in the most sympathetic manner and try to arrive at a conclusion which will bring about the end to which I am sure all the official and non-official members are working, that is the very best interests of the Colony in which we are situated. That being so I must say with all due respect that I regret Your Excellency should have made use of the word abuse.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I did not use the word abuse.

THE HON. MR. HEWETT—I beg your pardon, Your Excellency. I withdraw my remark. In any case you spoke of the report having given the Government a broadside. That was not intended. There was no question of an exchange of broadsides between the non-official members and the Government in this matter. In the report the members of the Commission honestly, sincerely and fearlessly stated exactly, after nearly a year's careful consideration, what they found to be the existing state of affairs. That it was a most ungracious and difficult task we realised from the first. When His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan first asked me to become a member of the committee and later chairman of the Commission which resulted, I knew perfectly well from my knowledge gained during nearly thirty years in the Far East, of which fifteen years had been spent in Hongkong, and from my knowledge gained during three or four years' work on the Sanitary Board that we would be compelled to pass very strong criticism upon certain sections of the administration of this great department and as a natural consequence I should have unfortunately as a member of the commission to sign my name to comments on the official action of gentlemen who have been personal friends, some very good personal friends, for a great number of years. In accepting that my colleagues and myself felt that any comment we might have to make was justified by the fact that His Excellency felt constrained to appoint a Commission with all the powers of a Royal Commission so as to sift the whole matter to the bottom. We did our duty as well as we could. We are all human and fallible and liable to error. We realise that it would be absurd to expect the Government to adopt our report in toto but we thought and expected that that report would be received in a more impartial manner and in a less hostile spirit than has been displayed by the words you used in criticism of this report. The last words Sir Matthew Nathan said in reference to this report before leaving the Colony were that he trusted it would be discussed in a spirit of impartiality, or words to that effect. That is the spirit in which the members of the Commission and, I am sure, my unofficial colleagues on the Council would wish to approach the subject. I sincerely trust that in the interests of the Colony, for which I am sure we are all working, that that will be the spirit in which we will be met by official members of this Council when the moment arrives for its discussion. I will not detain this Council any longer, Your Excellency. The questions of cubicles etc. are burning questions. We specially stated in the report that the subject of cubicles was one which required further consideration. What I do ask and hope is that we will recognise in discussing this report the necessity for meeting each other fairly and frankly, and honestly and sincerely endeavouring to discuss this question, here or elsewhere, in a spirit of perfect good friendship and unanimity, working in the best interests of the Colony. I regret having felt called upon to make these remarks, which I would not have done as a member of the late Commission had I not felt that a certain amount of personal feeling and animus had crept into the discussion. I do not say that it is altogether on one side. I regret that we have not had public feeling expressed more than in the few articles which appeared in the local papers, but I feel convinced that the feeling in the Colony is in favour of a thorough reform of the department. There is only one point to which I would specially refer in regard to these recommendations which have just been laid before us. I gather from page 7 that it is proposed to retain the Administrative Head of the department. Your Excellency, I can say looking at it entirely from the point of view which you understand I must hold I consider that as stated in our report the Sanitary Department should not be run as an entirely Government Department under the control of a Government Official, and I feel sure that further consideration and discussion will show this to be the consensus of opinion in the Colony. That the Chairman of the Sanitary Board should be a Government Official may be admitted to be feasible, and I am quite prepared to be convinced that the transfer of the Chairmanship may be

advisable. Since about the year 1888 the control of the department has been with the Board and this was confirmed by the Ordinance No. 1 of 1903. It was only by this passing of No. 23 of that year that the Administration was transferred to a Government Official who had sole control of the Department. The control of this Department must revert to the Board. It must not remain as it is. The Ordinance No. 23 of 1903 must be cancelled.

HIS EXCELLENCY—There is just one word I would like to say. It is in respect to the question that the honourable member has last referred to: in regard to that and all other principal questions I am only continuing the policy which received the final endorsement of Sir Matthew Nathan before he left this Colony. It is an irrefragable law of official etiquette that the Acting Governor should merely continue the policy of the departed Governor until such time as his successor arrives. However, gentlemen, I shall of course weigh anything that the hon. Member or any other hon. member has to say on this point or on any other point but I wish you to bear in mind that I am not initiating any new policy of my own. That would be an act of disloyalty to the Governor who has left the Colony. I am simply carrying on the policy which I know he himself would have adopted if he had been here.

THE HON. MR. HEWETT—I trust your Excellency does not think I was personal in my remarks. I was discussing it in an impersonal manner.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I have never had any personal feeling in the matter of this report at all. It is the privilege of a Colonial Secretary to criticise. I criticised and Sir Matthew Nathan apparently thought that those criticisms were conceived in a spirit which did not militate against proper consideration when he directed that they should be printed and laid on the table at the same time as the report of the Commission. He evidently thought that they were, taken on the whole, useful comments on the report. I am very pleased to have heard the remarks of the hon. Member and I have not the slightest doubt that we will amongst us be able to arrive at conclusions on this report which will be satisfactory to everybody and of considerable use to the Colony.

The motion was agreed to.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

THE HON. MR. KESWICK moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to authorise the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation from time to time to increase the Capital of the said Corporation from the sum of Ten Millions of Dollars to a sum not exceeding the sum of Twenty Millions of Dollars, and to continue incorporated for a further term of 21 years; and to continue in force for a further period of 21 years the provisions of Section 3 of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ordinance, 1899, with regard to the Excess Issue of Bills and Notes payable to bearer on demand. In doing so he said:—The Bill, the second reading of which I am about to move, may be subdivided under three heads:—First the increase from time to time of the capital of the H. & S. B. C. from ten millions to a sum not exceeding twenty millions; second the incorporation of the Bank for a further period of 21 years; and third, the continuation for a period of 21 years of the provisions of section III. of the H. & S. B. C. Ordinance of 1899 with regard to its excess note issue. Besides its very large interest in this Colony, the Bank is by far the most important financial institution in China, and the scope of its work is so well known to all hon. members that they cannot but approve the desire of the shareholders to obtain the sanction of the Government for an increase of capital. That the shareholders also wish the incorporation of the Bank for a further period of 21 years hardly calls for any comment. I think you will agree with me that it is most desirable to have this leading Bank closely identified with the Colony. As regards the note issue, which is a matter of public interest, I would remind the hon. members that under the existing deed of settlement the Bank is authorised to issue notes to the amount of its present capital of \$10,000,000 against the deposit of approved securities for 1/3rd of the amount with the Crown Agents of the Colony

in London. Though permission is asked to increase the capital to \$20,000,000, you are no doubt aware that the Bank does not propose to increase its capital beyond \$15,000,000 at present. The Bill before us continues the conditions attaching to the Bank's present note issue, but for the increase of \$5,000,000, it calls upon the Bank to deposit coin and or securities to the full value thereof with the British Government either in London or in Hongkong. In the general interests of the Colony the Bank was allowed in 1898 to issue notes, in excess of its authorized issue, against the deposit of coin or bullion with the Hongkong Government—dollar for dollar—and a continuation of this permission is provided for by the last clause of the Bill. I think hon. members will agree with me that the interests of the public as noteholders are adequately protected by the conditions of the Bill. I now move the second reading of the Bill.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

The Council resolved itself into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On resuming,

THE HON. MR. KESWICK moved the third reading of the Bill.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

NEDERLANDSCH INDISCHE HANDELSBANK.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance for giving to a Foreign Company called the Nederlandsch-Indische Handelsbank certain facilities for carrying on its business in the Colony.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and this was agreed to.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE ORDINANCE.

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1885.

THE COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and this was agreed to.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The Council stands adjourned till this day week.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on June 11th at the Board Room. The Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (President) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham (Vice-President), Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Hon. Mr. A. W. Erwin (Registrar General), Dr. H. McFarlane (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), Hon. Mr. F. J. Badeley (Captain Superintendent of Police), Major T. P. Jones, R.A.M.C., Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Mr. Lau Chu-pak, Mr. Fung Wa-chun, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (secretary).

THE COMMISSION'S REPORT.

MR. HOOPER, pursuant to notice, asked:—

1. Whether the president of the Sanitary Board will ask the Government if the Schedule B in the Appendix to the printed report of the Public Health and Building Ordinance Commission which was sent to the Board and laid on the table at the last meeting, is a true copy of the Schedule B of the original report.

2. If not, in what respect does it differ, and by whose authority was any alteration or addition made?

3. Whether Schedule A of Appendix No. 1 of such report which is stated in the copy sent to the Board as not printed, is printed in whole or in part, in such copy.

THE PRESIDENT replied:

1. It is not.

2. It differs by the addition of eight members of the Sanitary Department who have ceased to be members since the Commission set by the authority of the Officer Administering the Government.

3. The names of those eight members were extracted from Schedule A, which contained three lists of names, viz. (a) Names of members of the Department whose cases have been enquired into and against whom the Commissioners stated that the charges had not in their opinion been proved; (b) Names of members who had been reported to and dealt with by the Government, and (c) The names of two officers whose cases the Commissioners

considered required further inquiry. The Government never publishes the names of officers who are tried and acquitted, and it is obviously undesirable to publish the names of those whose cases are still pending.

Mr. HOOPER—Sir, perhaps it is irregular. I don't want to raise any discussion—but I think if you will allow me to say a few words in connection with this—

The PRESIDENT—I am afraid you are not in order. When questions are asked and answers are given, no discussion can take place unless to elucidate.

Mr. HOOPER—It is to elucidate.

The PRESIDENT—Will you put it in the form of a question.

Mr. HOOPER—I was going to correct you. You use the word 'members.' We (the Commission) say 'officers against whom charges were made.' It is rather important because in schedule B you have incorporated portion of schedule A in which the word 'officers' is used, whereas if you look at the heading of schedule B you will see that it says 'servants of the department.' There is a distinct difference laid down in the Ordinance regarding these terms. Again, the words 'a certain officer was transferred to another department' were included. As a matter of fact those words don't appear in our report. The report is dated March 19th, when the only information the Commission had, said that that officer had been suspended previous to being dismissed by the Secretary of State. It was not until May 15th, two months afterwards, that I, or any members of the Board or Commission, knew that he had been transferred to another department.

The PRESIDENT—That is explained in paragraph 3, which gives the names of members reported to and dealt with by the Government.

Mr. HOOPER—Quite so. You have stated how he had been dealt with. But the Government cannot insert anything after I have signed my name. It would mean my signing my name to something which I don't know to be true.

AN ILLEGAL RAIN SHELTER.

The tenant of No. 14 Square Street applied to the Board for permission to retain a moveable awning at the rear of the first floor of his premises. It was only at times pulled out to keep off the rain, and did not obstruct light or ventilation in any way.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH intimated—I cannot recommend that the tenant be allowed to obstruct this small yard with a cover as it is only a half kitchen half yard arrangement, and therefore the air shaft is of the minimum size.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—The applicant says the awning is pulled out only when it rains. If so, it does not obstruct light or ventilation, and I think the request should be granted.

The tenant is to be informed that he must remove the awning.

A BOARDING HOUSE NUISANCE.

Mrs. K. L. Coggin, manageress of Carlton House, requested the board to have an offensive latrine removed from the rear of No. 10 Ichohouse Street.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH intimated—I found this latrine clean, and that it had been recently limewashed. I don't think it should be removed as a greater nuisance would arise in such case owing to the large number of workmen employed in that vicinity. It will be frequently inspected to prevent, as far as possible, a nuisance being caused. It is a private latrine, on private land, and failing the creation of a nuisance, it seems to me that the only remedy is by injunction on the application of the parties aggrieved.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Public latrines must exist, and those living in the vicinity will always endeavour to have them removed elsewhere. All that can be done is to see the place is kept as clean as possible.

An inspector is to see that this place is kept clean.

SLOW WORK.

Messrs. Weaser and Raven, architects, applied on behalf of the tenant of 26, New Street, for permission to retain a tank at present existing in the yard of this house. A large quantity of water was required at certain times during the day for domestic purposes, and it is inconvenient to wait for the water to run from the tap in the kitchen. Hence their reason

for applying for a modification of the requirements of section 175 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH intimated—This yard is only eight feet by six feet eight inches, and only eight persons can occupy the shop. I don't see any necessity for this tank, especially now that the water is laid on constantly, and I have frequently explained the objections to these tanks, which are that the water is liable to be fouled by refuse from the upper floors, and by dippers being put on the ground and then dipped into the tank. I cannot recommend that it be allowed.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—What is the business of this shop? It should be allowed to remain until a constant supply of water from the mains is assured.

Members agreed that the tank should be removed.

AN EATING HOUSE NECESSITY.

Another application for permission to retain a water tank was made by the tenant of 136, Des Vaux Road Central. He stated that his premises were used as an eating house, and it was absolutely necessary in this business to have a large and ready supply of water, therefore a water tank was required. The one at present on the premises was a fairly small one, and did not constitute an obstruction.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—I can not recommend that this be granted. The yard is only 6 feet 10 inches by 5 feet 6 inches, and is obstructed by an unnecessary bridge both on the first and second floors. A notice should be served to remove the yard obstructions, including the tank. The yard has an area of 35 square feet, and the tank occupies 19 square feet.

The SECRETARY—It was decided at a previous meeting of the Board to refer the matter to the Director of Public Works to see whether the house could be supplied with a meter.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—There does not appear to be any reason for maintaining this tank if the house can be connected direct with the water mains.

The Hon. Mr. CHATHAM moved that the Board adhere to its previous resolution.

Mr. HOOPER considered that such tanks were useful and caused very little obstruction. Every encouragement ought to be given to people to store water provided it had a proper cover and, considering the whole question, he thought it more sanitary to have the tanks there than to be without them.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT thought the tanks should be discouraged as they were breeding grounds for mosquitoes. He moved that the matter be referred to the D.P.W. to ascertain whether the house could be connected with the Government water main.

Agreed to.

OBJECTIONS TO PLAGUE HOSPITAL.

Two letters were forwarded from the Government to the Board relative to a temporary district plague hospital proposed to be erected on the hillside to the north west of the Disinfecting Station at Kowloon. One was from the Hon. Mr. E. Osborne on behalf of the Steam Laundry Company, objecting to the erection of the hospital on that particular site; and the second was from Messrs. Siemssen and Co., on behalf of the new Tobacco Factory making a similar objection.

The PRESIDENT—It appears a site has been suggested by the Registrar-General for a temporary hospital at Tsamati, and this fact has got to the knowledge of certain people in the neighbourhood. They have written to the Board protesting against the hospital being erected there. It was only a temporary hospital.

Dr. MACFARLANE explained that the site was a considerable distance from the Laundry and there was no fear of infection from it.

The Hon. Mr. CHATHAM said there was nothing in the papers to show which site was referred to.

The Hon. REGISTRAR GENERAL—It has been sold.

The Hon. Mr. CHATHAM—Then it is useless for the Board to discuss it.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The mortality statistics for the week ended May 4th showed that the death rate per thousand of the British and foreign population was 20.5,

compared with 14.9 for the corresponding week of last year, and for the whole colony 19.4 compared with 19.6 for the corresponding week of last year. For the week ending May 11th the death rate of the British and foreign population was 24.6 compared with 39.9 for the corresponding week of last year and for the whole colony 21.6 compared with 27.4 for the corresponding week of last year.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 10th June.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT), AND THE HON. MR. E. A. HEWETT (NAUTICAL ASSESSOR).

A SALVAGE CLAIM.

An action for salvage was brought by the Hamburg-America Linie and the master and crew of the s.s. "Aragonia" against the China Navigation Company, Ltd., the owners of the s.s. "Hupeh" her cargo and freight. Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. G. Hastings of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the plaintiffs, while defendants were represented by the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master).

The petition was as follows: The s.s. "Aragonia" of which the Hamburg-America Linie are owners and the Portland and Asiatic Steamship Company the charterers, is an iron screw steam ship of 3,321.93 tons net register and 426 nominal horse power, and manned by a crew of 55 hands including the master, and is of the value of £45,000, and at the time of the salvage service hereafter mentioned, was carrying a general cargo of the value of \$85,000 including freight and bunker coal of the value of \$1,000. The s.s. "Hupeh" is a screw steamship of 1,205 tons net registered tonnage and manned by a crew of 38 hands including the master, and is of the value of \$25,000, and at the time of the salvage services hereafter mentioned was carrying a cargo of the value of \$115,000 including freight and bunker coal and 58 passengers. On 6th December 1906, at 11 a.m. the s.s. "Aragonia" was on a voyage from Moji, Japan, to Hongkong, when those on board sighted a steamship which proved to be the "Hupeh," anchored in 27.16 north latitude and 121.25 east longitude, and the "Hupeh" signalled "my ship disabled: will you tow me to a safe anchorage? Have you a rope ready? I have the main shaft broken." The main shaft of the "Hupeh" had broken on 5th December, and she had since that day been disabled, but had been unable to procure assistance. At this time a strong north-east monsoon was blowing, and a heavy sea running. The "Aragonia" was with difficulty and danger manoeuvred near to the "Hupeh," and those on board were understood to request to be towed to Hongkong. The s.s. "Aragonia" was then with difficulty and danger anchored sufficiently near and ahead of the "Hupeh" to enable a towing rope to be passed between the two vessels. After considerable trouble owing to the heavy sea running, a wire towing rope was passed to the "Hupeh" and shackled to a chain on the latter vessel, and at 3.35 p.m. towing commenced and continued throughout the rest of the day and night, and the following day until about 7.10 p.m. when the chain to which the rope was attached broke and the ships had to anchor and wait for daylight. On the night of the 6th December and on 7th December towing was rendered very difficult on account of the high sea running and wind blowing and the consequent bad steering of the "Hupeh." There was a great risk of the two ships losing connection, and to lessen this danger the "Aragonia" was steered inside Ooksen Island so as to get into smoother water, but thereby the risks of navigation were materially increased. Shortly after daylight on the 8th December the tow rope was passed afresh, and the "Hupeh" towed into the outer and then into the inner harbour of Amoy, and the rope disconnected at 1.20 p.m. The total length of the tow from where the "Hupeh" was first seen was 270 miles. The "Aragonia" was delayed in Amoy by the necessity of taking in fresh water to replace that consumed during

the towage, and could not leave Amoy until the 9th December at 4 a.m., and reached Hongkong at 5.35 a.m. on the 10th December. By reason of rendering the above-mentioned services to the "Hupeh" the "Aragonia" used extra coal to the value of \$1,417.50 and her charterers had to expend \$91.25 for overtime to give consignees prompt delivery of their cargo, and the charterers had to pay the owners three days' charter money at the rate of U. S. gold \$300 per day, amounting to Mexican \$1,851.27 for the time occupied in rendering the said services. In rendering the said services a heavy strain was put upon the hull, engines and gear of the "Aragonia" and considerable risk of serious damage incurred and considerable labour, exertion and danger were undergone by her master and crew. The plaintiffs therefore claimed (1) such an amount of salvage as to the Court shall seem fit (2) that the defendants be ordered to pay to plaintiffs such amount and costs.

In their answer to the petition the defendants admitted the first part of paragraph 1 but denied the other allegations in that paragraph. They, however, admitted the allegations in the paragraph 2, save that the "Hupeh" was of the value of £18,000 only and not of the value of £25,000. The defendants admitted the statements in paragraph 3 of the petition except that they stated that the s.s. "Hupeh" was anchored in 27.22 north latitude and 12.13 east longitude, and except that they stated that the only signal made by the "Hupeh" to the "Aragonia" was "Can you tow me to a safe anchorage?". The propeller shaft of the s.s. "Hupeh" broke at 7.35 p.m. on the 5th December, and she thereupon anchored in a safe anchorage in 28 fathoms of water and paid out about 90 fathoms of chain. The "Hupeh" was in no danger whatever either then or at the time when the "Aragonia" began to tow her, or at any time between these periods. In answer to paragraph 4 of the petition the defendants said: There was a strong north-east monsoon blowing with a rough sea. The s.s. "Aragonia," however, manoeuvred near to the "Hupeh" without any difficulty or danger and the "Aragonia" encountered no difficulty or danger in anchoring ahead of the "Hupeh" so as to enable a steel hawser for towing to be passed between the two vessels. Those on board the "Hupeh" never requested to be towed to Hongkong, but requested to be towed to Matsui. The defendants intended to wire a report of the accident from Sharp Peak. In answer to paragraph 5 of the petition the defendants said: There was considerable trouble but no difficulty or danger, owing to the state of the sea and the weight of the steel hawser in passing it from the "Aragonia" to the "Hupeh," but such work was done solely by the second officer and seamen of the "Hupeh," who passed along such hawser in a boat belonging to the "Hupeh," and no difficulty or danger in connection with the work was incurred by those on board the "Aragonia." The towing commenced at 3.30 p.m. and so soon as the vessels were steadied on their course, which was about southwest, thus bringing the wind and sea astern, the towage went on at a speed of about nine knots an hour, with an easy strain on the hawser. During the night the wind and sea increased, and when they had passed Tungyung about midnight those on board of the "Hupeh" noticed that the "Aragonia" did not alter her course to the westward in the direction of Matsui, and accordingly concluded that the captain of the "Aragonia" had decided to continue the towage to Amoy. At about 1.30 p.m. on the 7th December the "Aragonia" signalled "Advisable tow to Hongkong because Amoy not before dark," to which the "Hupeh" replied "prefer outer harbour Amoy, entrance not difficult. Night signalling for anchoring I leave to your arrangement." The "Aragonia" then signalled "I shall make for anchorage, use every precaution." The two vessels passed Dodd Island at 6 p.m., and about one hour later those in charge of the "Hupeh" noticed the "Aragonia" altering her course to starboard rather suddenly in the direction of the Tsing Sue Light, and in consequence of this jerk the chain cable on the "Hupeh" which was connected with the towing hawser between the vessels parted and thereupon the "Hupeh" anchored promptly and the "Aragonia" some minutes later. In answer to paragraph six of the petition the defendants said: There was no difficulty in the towage during the period referred to and the two vessels proceeded comfortably before the wind and sea, and the steering of the "Hupeh" was good. There was no risk of the two ships losing connection provided that the steering was careful. The "Aragonia" was steered inside Ooksen Island, but the risks of navigation were not increased thereby. In answer to paragraph 7 of the petition the defendants said: The towage was resumed about 7.20 p.m. on the 8th inst. and both vessels anchored in the outer harbour at Amoy at 10.50 a.m. and subsequently the "Aragonia" towed the "Hupeh" to the back of Kulangsu with the assistance of a pilot, arriving in the inner harbour where the hawser was cast off and the tow completed at 11.5 p.m. The defendants admitted the truth of the allegations in paragraph 8 and 9 of the petition. They however did not admit the truth of any of the allegations in paragraph 10 of the petition. They denied that a heavy or any strain was put upon the "Aragonia," her hull, machinery or gear in rendering the said services. The defendants also denied that any risk of serious damage or any damage was incurred by her. The defendants admitted that extra labour and exertion were undergone by the master and crew of the "Aragonia" in consequence of the said services, but denied that danger was undergone by her master or crew. Save in so far as the admissions noted, the defendants denied the truth of each and every allegation in the petition. The defendants on 30th April, 1907 paid into Court the sum of \$9,365.80, being the equivalent at the then rate of exchange of £1,000, and the defendants said that under the circumstances this amount was sufficient to satisfy plaintiffs' claim.

Mr. Slade, having read the pleadings stated that there was no divergence between the parties except in the matter of signals. Mr. Pollock—We are agreed upon the signals. Mr. Slade remarked that there were no questions outstanding except the state of the weather. Mr. Pollock—They say it was very rough. His Lordship—They say it was very, very rough (Laughter). His Lordship (to Mr. Slade).—They don't take the serious view of it that you do? Mr. Slade—No. Mr. Pollock—That is a common occurrence. Mr. Slade having concluded his opening statement, evidence in support of the plaintiffs' claim was called.

The first witness, Captain Ernst of the "Aragonia," gave evidence to the effect that he understood from the captain of the "Hupeh" that he wanted to be towed to Hongkong. They spoke to each other through the megaphone and he understood that was the nature of the request. He was of course not quite sure. Witness described the manoeuvres which preceded the fastening of the hawser, and indicated that a collision was narrowly avoided.

Mr. Pollock cross-examined witness as to the danger or otherwise of having taken the passage inside Ooksen Island, and witness said that in taking that passage it meant a certain 'risk' which he did not hesitate to take after having taken the risk of taking the "Hupeh" in tow.

The case was adjourned.

Tuesday, June 11th.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT), AND THE HON. MR. E. A. HEWITT (NAUTICAL ASSESSOR).

A SALVAGE CLAIM.

The action for salvage brought by the Hamburg-Amerika Linie and the master and crew of the s.s. "Aragonia" against the China Navigation Company, Ltd., the owners of the s.s. "Hupeh" her cargo and freight, was continued. Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. G. Hastings of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the plaintiffs, while defendants were represented by the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master).

Captain Ernst, of the "Aragonia," having concluded his evidence, the Chief Engineer was called, and confirmed his testimony.

His Honour then asked Mr. Slade what he would say, in assessing a reasonable amount to be paid, was the value of the services rendered by the "Aragonia" going inside Ooksen, as that was the question the Assessor and he had to consider.

Mr. Slade, after deliberation, said he thought 10 per cent. of the value of the vessel should be paid in consideration of the danger and risk caused by the steamer going at night into unsurveyed waters.

Mr. S. Silverstone, agent of the charterers of the "Aragonia," deposed that the time lost to the "Aragonia" by the towing of the "Hupeh" was two days.

Mr. Pollock—But one was a Sunday. Don't you have to take out a permit to work on Sunday?

Witness—We do.

Mr. Pollock—Yes, and pay a fee of something like \$250?

Witness—We pay a fee of \$100.

Mr. Pollock—Are you in the habit of paying these fees for working on Sunday?

Witness—I am. When necessary, I get permits for steamers to work on Sundays.

Mr. Pollock was proceeding to address the Court for defence, when

His Lordship said—What we don't understand is why, if the "Hupeh" did ask to be towed to Matsui, and finding the "Aragonia" was not heading in that direction, the people on board the "Hupeh" did not at once protest and ask the "Aragonia" what she was doing?

Mr. Pollock—Well, my Lord, when speaking or signalling at sea one does not stop to argue and call each other names through the megaphone.

His Honour—How far will the megaphone carry?

Mr. Pollock—That depends upon the size of the megaphone.

Mr. Pollock continued his address in which he contended that there was no danger and risk incurred by the "Aragonia," and that she was entitled only to the usual towing charges in such circumstances, plus the cost of the extra charter money and extra coal.

Captain Mathias of the "Hupeh" said he had been on the China Coast since 1885 and had been in command of the "Hupeh" since 1903. He detailed the events of the 5th December last when the propeller shaft of the "Hupeh" broke. On the following morning he signalled the "Aragonia" and as she steamed abreast of the "Hupeh" the Captain asked witness where he wanted to be towed. Witness, speaking through the megaphone, answered "Matsui." The Captain of the "Aragonia" replied—"You must come on board and talk to me." Witness responded—"I consider the weather unfit for boarding." The Captain of the "Hupeh" then said—"I will do my best for you."—Witness then noticed that the "Aragonia" drew ahead and canted over towards the "Hupeh," passing close to the latter's bows. Witness did not consider it was necessary for the "Aragonia" to go as far as she did. She could have laid off the "Hupeh's" quarter. Witness illustrated his remarks with models.

The case was adjourned.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WINE (PUISNE JUDGE).

THE CONNAUGHT HOUSE.

Some time ago an action was brought by a number of Chinese against The Connaught House, but, as the Puisse Judge pointed out, bricks and mortar could not be sued. The writ was amended and the managing partner was summoned but on his declaring that he was only one of eight the writ was again amended. On this occasion a series of actions were heard. Butchers, bakers, compradores, and dairy men brought separate actions against the proprietors for goods supplied to the amount of \$349.81. The proprietors were Wong Fang Shek, Tsai Sing, Li Wai Nam, Kwan Tsai Kwan, Nam Shui Tong, Lai Hop Kee, and Kwan Fak Yau, but only the second, fourth, sixth and eighth had been served. Only one man answered to his name and after judgment had been given against those who had been served it appeared

that other two were in court. When questioned why they had not answered to their names they stated that they thought it was only the other man who was on trial. His Lordship said he had a good mind to send them to gaol, but ultimately he heard their stories. All the defendants pleaded that their accountant had left them and they knew nothing of the accounts. His Honour told them that was their fault. When they asked for time he declined, saying that if he did so they would go into bankruptcy. Judgment was entered for the seven plaintiffs with costs.

Wednesday, June 12th.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT), AND THE HON. MR. E. A. HEWETT (NAUTICAL ASSASSOR).

A SALVAGE CLAIM.

The action for salvage brought by the Hamburg-America Linie and the master and crew of the s.s. "Aragonia" against the China Navigation Company, Ltd., the owners of the s.s. "Hupeh" her cargo and freight, was continued. Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. G. Hastings of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the plaintiffs, while defendants were represented by the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C. (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master).

Captain Mathias continued his evidence. Referring to the parting of the wire towing rope, he stated that the "Aragonia" gave no indication of her intention to take the sudden turn to starboard which caused the rope to part.

Cross-examined by Mr. Slade—Have you instructions in common with all captains in the employ of Butterfield and Swire that if anything happens to your ship you are not to request outside help but to wait until some of your ships come along?—I have not.

There is no rule or instruction of that kind in your service?—I have never seen or heard of it.

Nothing of the sort?—No.

Are you quite sure of that captain?—I am on oath. I say I have never seen it nor heard it.

Witness expressed the conviction that, though the "Hupeh" was exposed to the full force of a northeast monsoon on 6th December he could have ridden through the gale safely depending on his anchors.

You did not take the risk?—No.

You would not care to take the risk?—Witness did not reply.

You think the "Hupeh" with her anchor and chain could ride out any gale in the open sea?—A strong gale, yes.

And you would have no cause for anxiety?—No.

After being questioned as to the steering of the "Hupeh," and the difficulty of steering during the towing, Captain Mathias said that, although he was not in peril, he considered it his duty to signal for a tow.

Why?—The lives and property on board might be in peril.

And you considered, if you remained there, the lives and property in your care might be imperilled?—Yes.

Captain Innes, Marine Superintendent for the Company, valued the "Hupeh" at £18,000 and estimated that it would cost £25,000 to build a new ship like the "Hupeh."

Counsel addressed the Court and his Lordship reserved judgment.

Thursday, June 13th.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

OPIUM DEALERS FAILURE.

Re the E. Yuen firm of opium dealers, Mr. Morrell, from the Crown Solicitors Office, said the firm had issued a notice suspending payment of debts. The assets amounted to \$200,000, and the liabilities to \$380,000. Sent to Chambers.

WITHDRAWN.

In the case of Esther Oliver, of the New Travellers' Hotel, Mr. E. J. Grist said the

matter was adjourned with a view to a compromise being effected. The petition was filed because she was unable to carry on the business owing to the high rent. She had now come to terms with the landlord and with his Lordship's consent he would withdraw the petition. Granted.

AN ABSENT THIRD PARTY.

Re the bankruptcy of the Sze Long firm Mr. P. W. Goldring applied for the public examination to be closed. He questioned Tun Shun Tai as to the whereabouts of one Lun Shun, who was alleged to have deposited \$1,000 in a bank in which witness was interested. Examination closed.

BUILDING SPECULATIONS.

Connected with two firms, each of which failed, involving him in a total loss of \$61,000, Chun Hon Kai, publicly examined in bankruptcy, explained his losses.

Mr. Hursthouse, appearing for the creditors, asked debtor if he was not the owner of an inland lot which he mortgaged for \$81,000. There was a second mortgage for \$21,000, a third for \$25,000, a fourth for \$12,000, a fifth for \$8,000, and a sixth for \$5,000. He admitted having after that entered into a sale of the property free from encumbrances except the first mortgage and received \$10,000 bargain money.

Did you ever carry out your contract for the sale?—No, the transaction has not been completed.

Did you ever return the \$10,000 bargain money?—No.

Then they have paid you \$10,000 and got nothing for it?—That is so.

On the very day, 25th March, you executed a further encumbrance, a mortgage for \$8,000?—Yes.

And subsequently you executed a further encumbrance for \$5,000?—Yes.

Although, with the exception of the first, you had offered to sell this land free from encumbrances you put on other two encumbrances after receiving \$10,000 bargain money?—No that \$8,000 was borrowed before.

As regards the proposed sale you further encumbered the property which prevented you carrying out the contract?—Yes.

What did you do with all this mortgages money, \$15,000?—The first and second were handed over to me.

What did you do with the money from the third mortgage?—I bought a piece of land.

Did the whole of your land speculations turn out badly?—There was some profit. I made no profit within the last three years.

Do you expect there will be any surplus?—Yes.

From what?—From plot 423.

You know it has been sold by the first mortgagee?—Yes.

There is nothing left?—Yes.

How do you expect there will be a surplus from that?—I had half of it.

But nothing now will come to the estate from that?—Yes.

Mr. Hursthouse asked that a prosecution be directed.

The Official Receiver questioned debtor as to the sale of the land first mentioned. Debtor said he could have paid off the mortgages if the sale had been allowed to go through. The property was sold by the creditors for \$140,000. Examination closed.

Mr. Hursthouse then made formal application that a prosecution be directed inasmuch as he had attempted to defraud his clients out of \$10,000.

His Honour—I don't think you will get a conviction on that.

A HOTEL-KEEPER'S FAILURE.

The public examination of R. Matthaey, late of the Occidental Hotel, Kowloon, was continued. Debtor said he was a civil and marine engineer. He took over the Hotel in 1904, having had no experience in that line before. He paid a deposit of \$500 and went into possession in January, spending over \$2,000 in painting and alterations. The rent was \$1,100 per month not including an extra \$50. The hotel, including the ground, would have cost about \$50,000. His takings amounted to \$4,000 or \$5,000 per month.

What were your expenses?—I do not know; I never had any money over.

Continuing, debtor said he put \$3,000 in cash into the business and later on \$9,000 more. He borrowed \$3,000 during the first year and \$6,000 during the second. When the Kowloon ferry wharf was changed it made a difference of from \$300 to \$400 per month. He had told the landlord that he could not pay the rent and a reduction of \$250 was talked of but never ratified. His liabilities amounted to \$26,600 and his estimated assets \$16,500, of which \$11,000 were book debts.

The examination was closed and the Official Receiver applied for adjudication, which was granted.

Mr. Kemp also applied for an allowance for the bankrupt. There was a sum of \$4.00 in cash in hand and about \$6,000 in small accounts still outstanding, which would be difficult to collect.

Mr. R. F. C. Master and M. D'Almada opposed the application unless a reasonable time were set as limited.

Mr. Grist supported the application, and His Lordship granted \$300.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

June 12th.

ACCUMULATING BUSINESS.

The following is a translation of a notification issued by Viceroy Chou Fu:—

"This notification is issued by me (Viceroy Chou Fu). I have received a cablegram from Peking stating that the new Viceroy will leave Peking for Canton on the 2nd day of the 5th moon, in consequence of which the date for delivering over all provincial official affairs is approaching. The gentry and general public are requested to note that I will not receive any petitions on and after the 3rd day of the 5th moon. All gentry, merchants, and people of Kwang Tung and Kwang Si Provinces are requested to obey and respect this notification."

Viceroy Shum will find his hands full on arrival. I have it on the best of authority that numerous cases both foreign and Chinese have been shelved pro tem, and are awaiting the new Viceroy's arrival for settlement. This step is characteristically Chinese, and is becoming a great inconvenience all round.

SHUM'S APPROACH.

Local authorities received a telegram from Peking stating that Viceroy Shum would embark on the s.s. "Kwong Lee" at Ching-wangtao for Canton on the 3rd day of the 5th moon and will proceed direct without calling at Shanghai. Viceroy Chou Fu received a telegram from the new Viceroy stating that the latter official heard that the present Kwong Chow Prefect is about to vacate his position and leave Canton and requesting H. E. Chou Fu not to permit Prefect Chan Mong Tsang to leave until his arrival.

PRESENTS.

Marquis Li, Lieutenant Tartar General here, has received ten pieces of silk and other valuable articles from H. M. the Empress Dowager as a present. A special official was delegated to Canton to deliver the present to Marquis Li.

KULANGSU (AMOY) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Kulangsu (Amoy) Municipal Council, held at the Board Room, on the 21st May 1907.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Chairman), C. A. V. Bowra, A. F. Gardiner, Huang Tsan-chew, S. Okuyama, W. Wilson and the Secretary.

1. Mr. Wilson takes his seat, vice Mr. Marshall, resigned.

2. The minutes of the last meeting are read, and confirmed.

3. A letter is read from Mrs. T. C. Nicholls complaining of certain trees planted on the tennis ground. It is decided to inform Mrs. Nicholls that the trees were put up by the Council to provide a better light for the tennis players. That the trees at present cannot possibly be considered a nuisance, but if, in time to come, they should prove a source of annoyance, Mrs. Nicholls should approach the Council again on the subject when, no doubt, the Council will endeavour to meet her objections.

4. A letter is read from the American Consul complaining of inconvenience caused to passengers landing or embarking at San-ku-chau Jetty, owing to cargo boats blocking up both sides of the jetty. The Council decide to inform the American Consul that the matter has not been allowed to slide as he states but on the contrary has had the Council's most careful consideration, and that while they still consider that the trade interests of the Port come first, they will do what they can with cargo boat employers to see that a part of the Jetty is kept free for gigs and sampans.

5. The Superintendent of Police reports that complaints have been received that cattle are allowed to stray about the island during prohibited hours to the danger of the public—in two cases residents riding on the island have been attacked by buffaloes. He is directed to call the owners of the animals attention to the regulation forbidding the straying of cattle before 8 a.m. and after 4 p.m., at the same time pointing out the necessity of having coolies in charge who are capable of controlling the animals and whose duty it is to see the animals graze well away from the public roads. The Police are to be instructed to strictly enforce these orders.

6. On the motion of Mr. Bowra, the secretary is instructed to request the Commanders of Foreign War Ships visiting this Port to give instructions that when parties are landed on the beach for bathing, the men wear bathing costume.

7. The Secretary requests instructions as to granting permission to Commanders of War Ships to land parties for rifle and revolver practice on the range at Commissioners' Beach. It is decided, Mr. Bowra dissenting, to authorize the Secretary to grant such permission, providing the officer commanding the party so practising takes all precautions for the safety of the public.

8. The Superintendent of Police reports the following cases have been dealt with at the Mixed Courts since the last meeting.—

SUMMONSES.

Debt 2, Breach of Municipal Regulations 8, Assault 2.

SUMMARY ARREST.

Assault 4, Theft 1, Committing a nuisance 2.
(Signed) W. H. WALLACE,
Chairman.

By order,
C. BERKELEY MITCHELL,
Secretary.

OUTRAGE IN YUNNAN.

News has come to hand from Yunnan-fu, the capital of the province of Yunnan, giving particulars of a brutal attack that was made upon the Rev. Samuel Pollard of the Bible Christian Mission. The outrage was committed at a market village near Chaotung at midnight on April 8 by a band of men, Chinese and aborigines. On the following day Dr. Savin, of the same Mission, on being informed of the occurrence went to the village, where he found Mr. Pollard on the ground unable to move and in a very serious condition. On April 12 he was brought into the city, where he was made a little more comfortable, and hopes were entertained that his life would be saved. On April 19th Dr. Savin wrote:—"Mr. Pollard's body is covered with bruises. The most important injury is that to the lung. The left lung before the heart is wounded, and there is an escape of air into the surrounding tissues. Whether there is a broken rib I cannot tell. For the first few days he had to lie full length upon his face, but now he can wriggle from one side to the other and can lie upon his back. It will be some time yet before he can leave his bed and longer still before he can recover from the serious shock."

The reason for this dastardly attack is not known. Mr. Pollard was on an itinerating missionary journey and had put up for the night in the village where the attack took place. He has worked for many years in Yunnan and has gained the respect and esteem of very many of the people who have come to know him. The N.-C. Daily News understands that the British Consul at Yunnanfu is in communication with Peking in reference to the affair.

COMMERCIAL.

The Yokohama Prices Current and Market Report, published by the Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade, and dated May 30th, 1907, has the following:—

IMPORTS.

Yarns.—More enquiry; but little or no actual business. Shirtings.—No business yet, but an early improvement is generally looked for. Fancy Cottons and Woollens.—Market remains dull. Metals.—On the whole there seems to be a more confident tone in the metal market and some signs of easing in the financial situation. Dealers have not yet turned their attention seriously, however, to forward business and enquiries are by no means brisk. Kerosene.—The market is dull. Sugar.—In sympathy with reported high values on the Continent and elsewhere the market is firm, but the business is confined to Sugar for which there is an actual trade demand owing to buyers' disinclination to lay in a heavy stock at the present moment. Indigo (Natural).—No business.

TEA.

Since the 15th instant the market has remained steady with average offerings and ready buyers. Supplies are apparently scarce, and the lower grades are especially hard to obtain. Total settlements from May 1st to May 29th amount to 44,577 piculs, against 43,237 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

GENERAL EXPORTS.

Copper.—No change. Fish Oil.—A few more transactions are reported at about Yen 8.50 per 100 kin, and the market closes very firm.

SILK.

During the fortnight under review Europe has been trying to buy such lots as could be found passable for export, with the result that the general tone of our market improved considerably, and that prices for available Silks advanced by about Y.50 per kin; but holders demanding still higher figures things have again become very quiet at the close. Prospects for the new crop are excellent, and it is already estimated that from 115,000 to 120,000 bales will be available for export during the coming season, but this figure must of course be taken with all reserve as nothing can as yet be known about the summer and autumn crop of cocoons. Some small deals in new cocoons have taken place quite recently at prices corresponding to about Y.1,250 for No. 1-1; Sinshiu Filatures.

WASTE SILK.

Market unchanged. Settlements from May 14th to May 29th 500 piculs. Total Settlements from July 1st to May 29th:—57,000 piculs. Stock on May 30th is estimated at 5,400 piculs, viz:—Noshi, 800 piculs; Kibizzo, 3,600 piculs; Pierced Cocoons.—piculs; Sundries, 1,000 piculs.

YARN.

There has been much more doing throughout the past fortnight than during the previous two weeks, but the market has been entirely unhinged by the keen competition amongst importers to quit stock. Prices have further receded .0 cents to \$2 per bale, and although the decline has been partially recovered in special instances, owing to scarcity, the market may be termed unsteady and irregular. The enquiry has been general and almost all counts have been dealt in, but as No. 10s are comparatively much cheaper in value and may be said to have almost touched bottom considerable attention is being paid to this count. Receipts during the interval have exceeded the off-takes and our stock shows a small increase on last estimate. Bombay is reported strong.

Sales of the interval aggregate 7,665 bales, arrivals amount to 11,565, unsold stock estimated at 68,000, and sold but uncleared yarn at 35,000 bales.

Local Manufacture.—No business has transpired.

Japanese Yarn:—Continues in demand, and 100 bales No. 16s and 230 bales No. 20s are reported to have changed hands at \$120 and \$121 to 131 respectively.

Raw Cotton:—The market is almost lifeless for both Indian and China kinds and the only business reported during the interval comprises the sale of 24 bales Bengal at \$20, and of 90 bales Shanghai at \$23. Unsold stock 1,700 bales Indian and 450 bales China. Quotations are \$17 to 20 Indian and \$22 to 23½ Chinese.

Exchange on India has shown signs of weakness and after some fluctuation closes steady to-day at Rs. 163½ for T/T and Rs. 164 for Post. On Shanghai 73½ and on Japan 107½.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 8th instant, viz:—

Indian:—With a moderate enquiry the market is firm with advancing prices, sales amounting to about 6,000 bales and stock estimated at 140,000 bales.

Japanese:—Market firm but little doing, sales amounting to 1,500 bales on the basis of Tls. 86 to 91½ for No. 16s, and Tls. 91½ to 98 for No. 20s.

Local:—No business from first hands is reported.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods trade, dated Shanghai, 6th June, 1907, states:—The air of depression that was hanging over the market last week when we wrote our Report has lifted somewhat, we are pleased to say, and there certainly does not appear to be the same necessity to hold such pessimistic views of this market as seemed then to pertain to it. Satisfactory arrangements have been made by the firms concerned to manipulate the goods thrown back on their hands, mentioned last week, with the assistance of the local financiers, the result being that the market feels relieved and is in a decidedly more hopeful condition. This is evidenced by the increasing enquiry for goods in stock although from the ideas the dealers hold of prices they have not as yet fully appreciated the changes that have taken place in the producing centres during their recent period of hibernation. The consequence is no fresh transactions have taken place from first hands, but second hand holders are managing to get better terms. More and more confidence is being expressed that the condition of the market will be greatly improved after the settling day on the 15th inst., and that may account for the nibbling sort of enquiry that is going on, which may possibly be for the sole purpose of finding out what supplies are in hand and the ideas of holders as to prices. In the case of some classes of fancy goods small orders for fresh supplies have actually been placed. There have also been some clearance sales of fancy goods, of a sort that is greatly over stocked, namely common Figured Cotton Lastings. Three years ago these goods were in great demand for Szechuen, and in anticipation of a continuation of it heavy quantities were indented for by the native dealers, and now compose fully one half of the stock held here. The Szechuen market is glutted, and the colours wanted there are not suitable for other places, the consequence being it is quite impossible to move these goods at anything like their original cost, let alone the interest and charges that have accumulated. Three years ago they were selling at Tls. 3.90 a piece—now it is difficult to obtain Tls. 2.50! And other things are in the same position. However, it is cheering to note prospects are excellent for the silk crop, and the harvests everywhere are most promising, which should enable the country to recover from some of its recent heavy losses. Money certainly seems to be very plentiful by the way the natives are endeavouring to get concessions to build railways, etc., without the aid of foreign capital, but at the same time in some districts millions have died from starvation, what relief has reached them being through the instrumentality of foreigners. The Manchester market seems to be feeling the advance in the raw staple now much more than formerly, and spinners are getting late with their contracts, possibly owing to the scarcity of suitable cotton, although it may be they have over booked themselves. Meanwhile manufacturers are very strong and are full of work for months ahead. Cotton in Liverpool commenced to advance immediately after our last until 7.42d. was quoted for Mid-American, but has receded to 7.35d., yesterday's quotation, while 'Futures' are now 6.93d. This advance appears to have affected Egyptian also, 10½d. being the price received to-day. New York quotations for the new crop are 11.92 cents for October and 12.10 cents for Jan. The return shipment made by the s.s. Shimosa to New York were 7,500 pieces Grey Shirtings, 16,900 pieces Sheetings and 9,960 pieces each 35 and 40 yard Jeans. It is difficult to find out what more has been shipped as yet. Last month's export of Plain Cottons from England to China and Hongkong amounted to 27,000,000 yards, while the Yarn shipped to Hongkong and Shanghai was 1,200 bales. The falling off in the export was most marked during the second half of the month, which possibly betokens a decrease from now on. The Yarn market is quiet and there is but little doing, though at the close a firmer feeling set in. Cotton is rather inclined to advance in spite of the higher exchange and lack of demand by the mills. The current business during the interval is almost entirely credited to the auctions and second hand holders. At the former there was a much better feeling shown on the whole, though perhaps not very regular throughout

Grey Shirtings of all weights were decidedly firmer, but White Shirtings have scarcely followed suit yet. Turkey Reds and fast black cotton Italians went at distinctly higher prices, and woolens showed a firm tendency especially at this morning's sale. Cotton Yarn.—Indian.—The demand during the interval has continued very quiet with a lower tendency, owing to the firm position of the silver market. What business has been done is apparently fairly well distributed, the bulk, however, consisting of No. 20s. in comparatively small parcels, at steady prices for favorite spinnings, the buying being for Chefoo,

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 14th June, 1907.—The market has shown more signs of activity during the week under review, and with a more varied assortment of dealings rates have more than maintained their position; in fact it looks as if bed-rock has been reached in most stocks, and even a continuation of the small demand which has existed during the week would be sufficient to, at least, prevent any further fall in most stocks. Exchange on London T/P 2/2½, on Shanghai 73½.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled with sellers at \$880, but a few small lots have changed hands at that rate, and the market closes fairly steady but with a few shares still on offer. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions remain unchanged with buyers at 750, and no sales or sellers to report. China Traders have been placed at \$90, and more are wanted at that rate. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong's continue neglected, and although we have no business to report the market continues fairly steady at quotation. Chinas have improved to 85, after sales at 84½, the market closing firm at the former quotation.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have changed hands in small lots at 29½, and close with further buyers at that rate. Indo-Chinas continue a dead letter. Douglas's have found buyers at 40, and more shares could probably be placed at that rate. Shell Transport, after sales at 45s., close in demand at 46s. consequent on a demand from London. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have continued weak, and the rate has fallen without sales to 107, at which shares can be obtained at the time of closing. Luzons continue out of the market.

MINING.—Charbonnages, with a small demand have again risen to \$480, but no shares appear to be available. Raubs have ruled firmer, and with no shares to meet the demand the rate has improved to \$6½ with sales and further buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have found small buyers at 107, but the market closes with further sellers at that rate. Humphrey's Estates have been done in fair lots at 10½, and Kowloon Lands have found further buyers at 37. Hotels and West Points continue totally neglected.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks, after small sales at 102, fell further to 100, at which latter rate a fair number of shares changed hands; later, however, the market recovered, and with a demand at the lower rate which met with no response buyers offered higher rates, and at time of closing we quote 103, with probable buyers at a little higher. Kowloon Wharves. The ruling rate has continued at 80 sellers, but in the absence of buyers, and with some shares offering from the outports, the rate fell temporarily, and sales were effected at under that rate. The market however quickly recovered and at time of closing we have to report small sales at 78 & 79 with no further sellers under 80. Shanghai Docks have further receded in the North to 76, at which the latest advices make them weak. Hongkew Wharves have ruled steady during the week, and close in Shanghai at 224.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have advanced to 62½ (per advices by the mail from Shanghai), and Laou Kung Mows to 87½. Internationals and Soy Chees, on the other hand, have declined to 51 and 325, respectively.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents have found further buyers at 8.90, and close rather firmer with no sellers under 9.00. Dairy Farms have receded to 15 with sellers and no sales to

report. Cements remained at 15 during the early part of the week, and a good many shares are reported to have changed hands at that rate. Towards the close, however, the demand at 15 continuing, and no more shares being procurable, the rate rose to 16, at which a fair number of shares have also changed hands. The closing rate is 16 sellers. Langkats have improved to 297½. Peak Tramways have been placed at 11, and close with sellers at that rate.

Quotations are as follows.—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$120
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai	\$125	\$880, sales & sel. London, 298
National B. of China		
A. Shares	26	\$51
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7, sellers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$9½, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$6½, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$9, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 62½
Hongkong	\$10	\$11½, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 51
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 87½
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 325
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$15, sellers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$80, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$104, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$11½, buyers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 76
Shanghai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 224
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$17½, sellers
G. Island Cement.	\$10	\$16, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas.	\$10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric.	\$10	\$14½, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$118, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$245
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$20, buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$280, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$85, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$90, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$325, sellers
North China	25	Tls. 75
Union	\$100	\$750, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$170, buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$107, sales & sel.
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$104, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$37, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 103
West Point Building	Tls. 50	Tls. 102
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$490, buyers
Raubs	18 10	\$6½, sales & buy.
Peak Tramways	\$10	\$11, sales & sel.
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$5
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$107, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$21, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15½, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$40, sales & buy.
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$29½, buyers
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$10	\$71, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	21	40 6, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$26, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$16½, sellers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$23, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$7
Stores & Dispensaries		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$20, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$4, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11½, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10½, buyers
Do. Founders	\$0	\$150
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$12½, sales

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending June 7th, 1907, states.—The Settlement for May took place on Friday, the 31st ultimo, but being a very small one did not influence the course of business in any way. The week has been a very quiet one as usual at present, and rates have not altered very much in the meantime. T. T. to-day on London is 2sh. 11½d. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have declined to £98 in London and the market here closes with sellers at \$880. Marine and Fire Insurance.—North China Insurance. A sale has been made at Tls. 75. Yangtze Insurance Shares are wanted at \$165. Shipping.—There is no business reported and no interest is taken in this stock. Shanghai Tugs. Shares have changed hands this week at Tls. 46, for the ordinary, and Preference shares are on offer at Tls. 50. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd. After the Settlement a spasmodic inquiry set in and cash shares have been dealt in since at Tls. 80, Tls. 81, Tls. 82 and Tls. 84. At this latter rate shares came out and the demand has suddenly ceased. Subsequently a sale for December was made at Tls. 84. Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. The last advice from Hongkong quote this stock at \$105 sellers. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares. We cannot give a reliable quotation for cash, as the market is somewhat unsettled, but business has been done at Tls. 222½, Tls. 223, and Tls. 224, closing steady at about these rates. For September the market closes with buyers at Tls. 232½ and sellers at Tls. 235. For December Tls. 237½ has been done. Yangtze Wharves close with sellers at Tls. 212½. Sugars.—No business reported. Mining.—No business reported. Shanghai Lands.—Sales have taken place at Tls. 101 and Tls. 100 for the ordinary shares and Tls. 99 for the new shares. There are buyers at these rates. Industrial.—Ewo Cottons. A sudden demand has arisen and the rate has advanced to Tls. 63 closing with buyers. International cotton have been placed at Tls. 52½ for September and Tls. 52 for Dec. Laou Kung Mows. Shares have changed hands at Tls. 81 for cash. Shanghai Gas Co., close with buyers at Tls. 106. China Flour Mill. A parcel is on offer at Tls. 65. Maatschappij & Co., in Langkats. There is no business whatever to report in this stock. Cash shares remain at Tls. 287½ and there is very little doing. Anglo-German Brewery shares are wanted at \$87½. Miscellaneous.—Astors have been dealt in at \$28.50. S. Montrie & Co. A few buyers at \$40 are in the market. Hotel des Colonies are on offer at Tls. 13½. Shanghai Horse Bazaars are wanted at Tls. 45. Shanghai Mutual Telephones have declined to Tls. 59 closing with sellers. Loans and Debentures.—Six per cent. Municipal Debentures have been placed at Tls. 99. Shanghai Land 6 per cent. have been dealt in at Tls. 98.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, June 14th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/2½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/3½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	277
Credits 4 months' sight	282
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	225½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	52½
Credits, 60 days' sight	54½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	163½
Bank, on demand	164
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	163½
Bank on demand	164
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	73½
Private, 30 days' sight	74½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	107½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	107½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	6½ p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	131½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	4½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	4 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	67½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$ 9.05
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	\$ 7.70
BAR SILVER, per oz	80½

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

June—

ARRIVALS.

- 9, Hupeh, British str., from Amoy.
- 9, Singan, British str., from Hoihow.
- 10, Alesia, German str., from Cebu.
- 10, Amoy, German str., from Kin Hon.
- 10, Benarty, British str., from London.
- 10, Hunan, British str., from Iloilo.
- 10, Iatok, Austrian str., from Bombay.
- 10, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
- 10, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., from Japan.
- 10, Kiang Ping, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
- 10, Malacca, British str., from Hankow.
- 10, Oceanien, French str., from Yokohama.
- 10, Peleus, British str., from Liverpool.
- 10, Phranang, German str., from Bangkok.
- 10, Rubi, British str., from Manila.
- 10, Samsen, German str., from Bangkok.
- 10, Sydney, French str., from Marseilles.
- 10, Taikosan M., Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.
- 10, Taishan, British str., from Saigon.
- 10, Tjikini, Dutch str., from Batavia.
- 10, Viroaya, American str., from Iloilo.
- 10, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
- 11, Ceylon, British str., from Bombay.
- 11, Flintshire, British str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Hakata Maru, Jap. str., from London.
- 11, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Helene, German str., from Hoihow.
- 11, Kiukiang, British str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
- 11, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
- 11, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
- 11, Minos de Batan, Am. str., from Iloilo.
- 11, Tatsu Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.
- 11, Thinhiku Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
- 11, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
- 12, Amigo, German str., from Haiphong.
- 12, Delta, British str., from Singapore.
- 12, Forest Dale, British str., from Sourabaya.
- 12, Fukushima Maru, Jap. str., from Pratas Id.
- 12, Haibing, British str., from Foochow.
- 12, Johanne, German str., from Sourabaya.
- 12, Joshi Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
- 12, Knivsberg, German str., from Macao.
- 12, Lydia, German str., from Chinkiang.
- 12, Norman Prince, Brit. str., from Keelung.
- 12, Orange Branch, Am. str., from Manila.
- 12, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
- 12, Prometheus, Nor. str., from Bangkok.
- 12, Shakano Maru, Jap. str., from Saigon.
- 12, Taisang, British str., from Wakamatsu.
- 12, Taiwan, British str., from Saigon.
- 13, Bourbon, French str., from Swatow.
- 13, China, Am. str., from San Francisco.
- 13, Progress, German str., from Iloilo.

June—

DEPARTURES.

- 10, Anghin, German str., for Swatow.
- 10, Nikkai Maru, Japanese str., for Hongay.
- 10, Sydney, French str., for Shanghai.
- 11, America Maru, Jap. str., for San Francisco.
- 11, Benarty, British str., for Nagasaki.
- 11, Fukushima Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
- 11, Haimun, British str., for Coast Ports.
- 11, Hangsang, British str., for Swatow.
- 11, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
- 11, Hilary, German str., for Batavia.
- 11, Hunsang, British str., for Hongay.
- 11, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
- 11, Kenkon Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
- 11, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 11, Machew, German str., for Bangkok.
- 11, Malacos, British str., for London.
- 11, Oceanien, French str., for Saigon.
- 11, Sexta, German str., for Saigon.
- 11, Tango Maru, Japanese str., for Keelung.
- 11, Tean, British str., for Manila.
- 11, Yingchow, British str., for Swatow.
- 12, Aldershot, British str., for Labuan.
- 12, Copri, Italian str., for Singapore.
- 12, Ceylon, British str., for Moji.
- 12, Dagny, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
- 12, Derwent, British str., for Saigon.
- 12, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
- 12, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
- 12, Kisagata Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
- 12, Lightning, British str., for Singapore.
- 12, Paoing, British str., for Tientsin.
- 12, Peleus, British str., for Shanghai.
- 12, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
- 13, Yesan Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
- 13, aikoku Maru, Jap. str., for Cheribon.
- 13, C. Michelsen, Nor. str., for Shanghai.
- 13, Cheongahing, British str., for Chefoo.

- 13, Chunsang, British str., for Shanghai.
- 13, Clara Jebson, German str., for Saigon.
- 13, Fausang, British str., for Moji.
- 13, Flintshire, British str., for Singapore.
- 13, Fri, Norwegian str., for Hong-y.
- 13, Hsinchang, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
- 13, J. Diederichsen, German str., for Pakhoi.
- 13, Lydia, German str., for Canton.
- 13, Singan, British str., for Haiphong.
- 13, Skramstad, Norwegian str., for Tourane.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

- Per *Haiching*, from Foochow, &c., Mrs. Saunders, and Mr. Gallon.
- Per *Luisang*, from Calcutta, &c., Dr. Falks, Messrs. Hughes and Holmes.
- Per *Kiukiang*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Morpheus and 4 children, Mr. Phillips.
- Per *Oceanien*, from Hongkong, from Kobe, Messrs. J. M. Monfrier and J. Hoyes; from Shanghai, Messrs. P. Oppenbueggen, Palek Wib-r, H. Utley, A. E. Gutierrez, Lewis Potts, Hayden, J. A. Fowler, A. Winkorill, Vallong, Vidal, Oda, -ika, Mokamaton Mounofon, Karum Singh, Badah Singh, Harisson, Cassel and Argel.
- Per *China*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. H. Parrish, Lt. and Mrs. W. E. Johnson, Mrs. D. H. Hare, Mrs. Margaret Lees, Mrs. F. R. Lewis, Miss M. L. Garrett, Miss Gertrude Neelay, Miss G. L. McCash, Messrs. P. W. Darrow, H. W. Wickman, R. S. Mogan, K. F. Meunich, E. J. Snyder, J. F. Thompson, I. Thomas, E. Owen and J. L. Pearson and servant.
- Per *Delta*, from Bombay, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Myers, Mr. and Miss Macgregor Smith, Mrs. C. J. Iessawalla, Capt. W. T. de Rosa, His Excellency Wang Taisich, Messrs. G. S. Lindsell, J. C. Iessawalla, D. S. Iessawalla, M. S. Joseph, A. Burton, J. P. Kenrick, A. F. Davis, McLosky, Brown and nurse servant, R. D. Stafford, Boilm, S. S. Mariar and nurse servant, J. E. Salmon, Sauval Dass and nurse servant, G. G. Millar, A. Rothery, S. Khan and C. S. Halleem.
- Per *Sydney*, for Hongkong, from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Wahr and 3 children, Messrs. Tattara and Lawlet; from Saigon, Messrs. Minami, Nicolas, Antonio Sinians, Mrs. Annamite and child; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. Blanchet, Miss Vredinger, Miss Vallony; from Djibouti, Mr. Vinson Moite; from Bombay, Messrs. Miller, Glick, Guthrie; from Singapore, Mr. Kraus; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Delyi, Mr. M. Gouohat and Stavio, Mr. Meyer; for Kobe, from Yokohama, Mr. Plumet; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. Robson, Mrs. Laurent and child, Miss Medard; from Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Ociod and 2 children, Messrs. Hirjee, Fooljaram, Geo. Scarf and d Guiol.
- Per *America Maru*, from San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. M. Muchnic, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. M. Milne, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Hoffman, Mr. and Mrs. R. Zeuner, Mr. and Mrs. C. Carrigan, Rev. and Mrs. W. F. Crafts, Capt. and Mrs. P. W. Gunney, Mrs. L. B. Miller, Mrs. L. J. Meyers, Mrs. I. J. Dugan, Mrs. E. A. Benson, Mrs. B. D. Mulligan, Mrs. G. K. Wilder, Mr. M. Kelly, Mrs. French Kaufmann, Miss E. Bass, Miss M. A. Garvie, Miss Etta R. Gregory, Miss L. M. Rogers, Miss E. L. Barnes, Miss C. B. Scharff, Miss Kaufmann, Dr. G. E. Neson, Capt. L. M. Gulick, Messrs. A. B. Doe, C. B. Meyers, P. A. Garvie, Ira A. Gardiner, Wm. Kohrs, F. M. Brooks, H. Mannheim, C. S. Betton, Walter S. Jones, J. C. Mahan and child, J. A. Schubert, J. H. Brown and F. Griolias.
- Per *Syria*, from London, for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Gilbert, Mr. J. L. Walby, for Kobe, Mr. J. O. Bamber, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Tarrant and two infants and nurse, Mrs. Grey, Master E. Evans, Mr. J. M. Dakin; from Singapore, for Shanghai, Mr. W. S. Young; from London, for Manila, Messrs. R. S. France, W. N. Junceau; from London, for Hongkong, Com. M. H. Penfold, Capt. and Mrs. Moultrie and infant, Messrs. W. Burgess, De Sales, Mrs. Penfold, Mr. S. T. Ryan, Mr. J. Pearson, Mr. and Mrs. Setbridge, Lieut. A. F. Jones, Dr. E. Green, Messrs. B. T. Smart, J. D. Forrest, Capt. and Mrs. G. A. Parke and two children, and amah, Mrs. Thomson and two infants; from Singapore, Messrs. N. Phillips, S. G. Phelps; from Brindisi, Mr. D. Hale; and from Port Said, Mr. D. B. Smith.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Rivers, Mrs. C. W. Hassler, Miss I. Villaneuve, Miss Katharine Smith, Capt. A. H. Thomas, Rev. A. Rodriguez, Messrs. M. Villaneuve, J. Salcedo, P. W. Nygath, E. He ti, J. Traugott, J. Miller, B. Pingdingolas, Cheok Sin, G. Harling and F. A. Chopard.

Per *Kamakura Maru*, from Japan, Mr. and Mrs. O. Samuel, Mr. and Mrs. Withy, Mrs. P. Harrison, Miss Yates, Major Chitty, Messrs. J. C. Lawe, K. Morikawa, Th. Metzelthin, Koshotei, Kyokihei, J. Nagawa, S. Moirs and W. Gaulbourn.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. Reohard, Mr. and Mrs. Clifford, Mrs. D. Christie, Mrs. W. A. Cox, Mrs. L. M. Joblin, Miss B. Clifford, Miss Keating, Dr. W. M. Strong, Dr. J. Donelan, Messrs. U. S. Gilman, H. W. Slade, H. Hasell and Cox.

Per *Hakata Maru*, from London and Singapore, for Hongkong, Mrs. J. Shaw, Miss B. Gomershall, Messrs. K. B. Chyr, K. L. Thiam, F. Holles, Y. F. Hu, Braby, L. Chew Pin, T. Burnett, Y. Ying, W. Leang and F. Yen; for Kobe, Mrs. P. G. Wolley, Messrs. T. Nohara and K. Hama; for Yokohama, Capt. and Mrs. E. B. North, Miss M. Horsley, Lt.-Col. G. Wright, Messrs. H. R. Hunt and H. Bridges.

Per *Kumano Maru*, from Nagasaki, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. D. Todo, Mr. and Mrs. H. Yamamura, Messrs. John Arnhold and Charles Nugnet; for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Criok, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. McWilliams, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Button, Capt. and Mrs. S. D. Buttler and infant, Miss C. K. Bowie, Miss E. M. Peters, Capt. W. D. Chitty, Lieut. Comder. J. H. Rawen, Messrs. G. Kogirima, S. Miyamoto, A. K. Livioka and S. Misaka; for Townsville, Mr. Walter Camelon; for Brisbane, Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Bingham; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. R. Baba, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hume, Mr. and Mrs. Milton King, Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Kiss and infant, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Fagan, Mrs. F. R. C. Hopkins, Miss King, Miss V. King, Miss Kiss, Miss Nancy Kiss, Miss M. Thurn, Miss Myra Wood, Messrs. R. Fagan and R. C. Hopkins; for Melbourne, Miss C. J. Mc Colman, Messrs. John Cook & D.C. Mc Colman.

DEPARTED.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Hongkong, for Japan, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Richard, Dr. and Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. John Millis and 3 children, Mrs. Anderson and 2 children, Mrs. Kobayasi, Miss Takahashi, Dr. Stocks, Dr. Ito, Rev. Griffith, Madame Ramon Ramirez, Madame Tonguoir, Messrs. U. S. Gilman, C. Gubanzi, D. Bell, Singleton, H. S. Cornfoot, C. F. Jarman, J. S. Wheeler, J. H. Gibson, J. F. Ramirez, J. E. Ramirez, Chas. Tonguoir, Topman, T. Tettamansi, G. Kumabe, C. K. Chan, C. K. Wa and Hama.

Per *Tango Maru*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, &c., Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Foss, Mr. and Mrs. Carrigan, Mr. and Mrs. Boanas and child, Mr. and Mrs. Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. Heaton-Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. Preston, Rev. and Mrs. Anderson and child, Rev. and Mrs. Tadd, Mrs. Laura Van Praag, Mrs. Worley, Mrs. H. Pangborn, Mrs. C. E. Wilson, Mrs. Phinney, Mrs. Kiene, Miss Calamo, Miss Geary, Dr. W. M. Strong, Dr. Hartley, Capt. Thomas, Messrs. Saillens, Spencer, Willis Gaddie, J. P. McGrew, Rosenthal, F. L. Halt, R. W. Turner, A. Lawles, W. C. Webb, Chas. H. Inman and J. Paolini.

Per *America Maru*, from Hongkong, for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. M. Milne, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Hoffman, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Kirkpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. R. Zeuner, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Myers, Capt. and Mrs. R. W. Guiney, Mrs. S. M. Fox, Mrs. L. B. Miller, Mrs. L. J. Myers, Mrs. S. J. Lashbrooke, Mrs. G. K. Wilder, Mrs. E. A. Beuson, Mrs. E. A. Holmes, Mrs. C. W. Hassler, Miss Idah J. Dugan, Miss E. L. Barnes, Miss Etta R. Gregory, Miss Haber, Miss J. Fearon, Miss D. Fox, Miss L. R. Rogers, Miss E. Bass, Miss Mable A. Garvie, Miss E. B. Schuff, Rev. L. L. Henson, Dr. Wurker, Dr. A. B. Doe, Commander Wirthrop, Messrs. P. A. Garvie, B. Schaap, P. G. Mygatt, J. L. Whelan, J. E. Bien, Ira O. Gardner, T. G. Robbers, J. B. Floyd, M. J. Moses, L. F. Haber, F. Lawrence and A. H. Hasell.

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BIRTHS.

On May 30th, at Hankow, the wife of F. A. AGLEN, Commissioner of Customs, of a son.

On June 1st, at Shanghai, the wife of C. M. DE SENNA, of a son.

On June 5th, at Shanghai, the wife of G. F. C. DOBSON, of a son.

DEATHS.

On June 2nd, at Shanghai, CHARLES ANDERSON, late Master at Arms, U. S. Navy, aged 69 years.

On June 3rd, on her way home, SUZANNE (née Brunat), the beloved wife of Paul Albert Schlumberger, of Shanghai. Buried at Sea.

On June 6th, at his residence in Manila, J. F. C. DA ROZA, formerly of Hongkong, aged 75 years. No cards.

Hongkong Weekly Press.

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ARRIVAL OF MAIL.

The English Mail of 17th May arrived, per the s.s. *Delta*, on Wednesday, the 2th instant.

FAR EASTERN NEWS.

The *Gazette* notifies the appointment of Mr. F. J. V. Jorge as vice consul in charge of the Consulate General of the Republic of Panama during the absence on leave of Mr. A. M. Percy.

The carriage of the Italian Minister at Peking drove over a policeman (who subsequently died) on the 30th May; and the Waiwupu is now negotiating on the matter with the minister.

According to an extract of meteorological observations made at the Hongkong Observatory the average maximum temperature for the month of May was 80.6, and the minimum 73.0 deg. The total rainfall for the month was 11.280 inches.

H.E. the Officer Administering the Government has been pleased to appoint Mr. F. G. Figg to act as Director of the Observatory during the absence on leave of Dr. W. Dobereck; Mr. D. W. Tratman to be a member of the New Territories Land Court; and Mr. R. G. McEwen, first class Sanitary inspector to be a plague inspector in succession to Mr. W. H. Woolley, promoted.

Only a few days before two Chinese who had been enticed on board the *Ajaz* bound for Singapore leaped overboard in the Sulphur Channel and were nearly drowned before they were picked up by the Harbour Master's launch. Curiously enough a similar incident took place on June 8th at almost the same place. It is not known from which vessel he threw himself, but he was found by the Y.M.C.A. bathing party in an exhausted state, not far from the stranded *Choising*. Though he could swim he must have been in the water a considerable time, as he was com letely exhausted when rescued. He stated that when he found himself being taken to Singapore against his will he jumped overboard. As is well known the recruiting for emigrants is attended with grave abuses here.

His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has given his assent in the name and on behalf of His Majesty the King to the following Ordinances passed by the Legislative Council:—Ordinance No. 3 of 1907.—An Ordinance to authorize the Appropriation of a Supplementary Sum of four hundred and seventy-seven thousand eight hundred and forty nine dollars and fifty-three cents, to defray the charges of the Year 1906. Ordinance No. 4 of 1907.—An Ordinance to remove doubts as to the validity of the proceedings of the Supreme Court of this Colony during the time that Alfred Gascoyne Wise, Esquire held the office of Puisne Judge of such Court from the 25th day of June down to the present time. Ordinance No. 5 of 1907.—An Ordinance to amend the Married Women's Property Ordinance, 1906.

The result of the working of all the Japanese cotton spinning companies for the present half-year, which is about to close, is given as being unprecedentedly satisfactory. According to the *Asahi* the cotton spinners, who have had a most prosperous season this year, are quite prepared for the inevitable reaction sooner or later. The spinners, who have gone through many years of bitter experience, have made ample provision during the prosperous time which began the year before last by placing aside ample reserves. During the recent business boom, however, agitations were stated among the shareholders of spinning companies for an increase in the rates of dividend, and it was feared at one time that the foundations of the various concerns might be threatened. At the present time, as the result of the collapse of the share market, the attitude of the shareholders has undergone a change and they are now adopting a practical line of policy. Not a few companies are in the position of being able to pay a dividend for the present half-year at the rate of over 100 per cent. per annum, but the Board of Directors of such companies have decided to place as large an amount as practicable to reserve. The boards of Directors of the Amagasaki and Settsu spinning companies have decided to limit their dividends to 50 per cent., the Godo, Fukuishima and Kishiwada spinning companies each to 30 per cent., and the Kanegaruchi and Osaka Spinning companies to 20 per cent. each.

The trouble in the neighbourhood of Swatow is at an end and the soldiers who were sent to the district from Canton are expected to return home almost immediately. It has been remarked in Swatow that these troops appear to be under a stricter discipline than is usually associated with Chinese troops. On the 4th instant, a soldier was beheaded at Swatow for "disgracing his uniform," by committing an indecent assault on a married woman. When the last mail left Swatow, the Japanese cruiser *Naniwa*, was in the harbour, and it seemed likely that she would be compelled to remain there some days waiting for a sufficiently high tide to enable her to get out over the bar.

The Victoria Recreation Club has its annual meeting on the 19th inst. Messrs. R. W. Pearson, F. Lammert, and L. A. Musso, as Boat-house sub-Committee, report that boats to the value of \$3,200 were lost in the September typhoon. They recommend that only pair-oars be built for the present. Messrs. N. H. Alves J. W. Bains, and R. W. Pearson, as Bath-house sub-Committee, dwelt on the success of the night fêtes, and suggested the possibility of an interport swimming fixture. Messrs. W. Logan, J. A. S. Alves, and H. M. Harrop, as gymnasium sub-Committee, said that the jujitsu class had to be abandoned owing to language difficulties. Messrs. E. M. Hazeland, M. A. A. Souza, and M. McIver as Bar sub-Committee report that stock worth \$133.78 was lost in the typhoon. Nevertheless the balance of profit on the season was good, \$325.38. The accounts were audited by Mr. H. Murray Bin, as presented by Mr. S. A. Seth, hon. treasurer.

Returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st May 1907, as certified by the managers of the respective banks, are as under:—

Banks.	Average Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India,	\$	\$
Australia and China.....	3,197,791	2,800,000
Hongkong and Shanghai		
Banking Corporation	13,857,281	9,500,000
National Bank of China, Ltd.	213,973	100,000
Total	17,269,045	11,900,000

THE NIPPON YUSEN K ISHA

The 34th report of this Company said:—The Directors submit to you the annexed Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Company, and the profit and loss account for the half-year, ended March 31st, 1907. The gross profits of the Company for the past half-year amount to yen 2,960,736, out of which there has been paid:

Depreciation of the Company's fleet	Yen
and property	828,321
Insurance fund	356,119
Ships' Structural Repair Fund	495,751

Yen 1,680,222 leaving a balance of Yen 2,054,726, including Yen 774,212 brought forward from the last account. The Directors now propose that Yen 64,025 be added to the Reserve Fund, raising it to Yen 2,447,049; and that Yen 71,358 be allowed as Directors' and Auditors' fees. From the remainder the Directors recommend a Dividend at the rate of ten per cent., together with two per cent. as Special Dividend, thus making twelve per cent., per annum, which will absorb Yen 1,320,000. The balance, Yen 59,342, will be carried forward to the next account.

JAPANESE IN FORMOSA.

(Daily Press, 10th June).

The Japanese are evidently not having an easy task in their endeavours to introduce something in the form of law and order among the unruly inhabitants of Formosa. According to a book written by Mr. TAKEKOSHI, a member of the Japanese Diet, which has formed the subject of some notice, it would seem that any attempt at establishing a system of civilized law into the country would be completely hopeless and the only thing to do has been to make a compromise and to deal with the natives according to their own customs, as far as it is possible to administer them. To this system, however, Mr. TAKEKOSHI is somewhat strongly opposed, and he has expressed his hope that it may be possible to do away with it at an early date. This view of the subject is natural on the part of one who has an acquaintance with the principles of civilized law; but at the same time it will probably be found desirable to adhere to the plan which has been adopted and not to attempt to improve upon it, by any too rapid or violent change. Experience in other places has proved that it is possible under circumstances similar to those existing in Formosa, to administer justice in a fair and equitable manner, while adopting many of the customs of an inferior race. The plan is not by any means new. Indeed it is as old as the Roman Empire, where law was wisely administered, among the conquered nations, largely according to the customs which they recognised, tempered, however, as far as possible by the more advanced principles of Roman jurisprudence. The same plan has been resorted to in India and in some of the British Colonies, and has been found to work satisfactorily. It speaks well for the statesmanly instincts of the Japanese that they should have seen the advantage of making use of this stepping stone to a more satisfactory system when the time for its adoption shall have arrived. There would seem no reason to doubt that it may be as satisfactorily worked in Formosa as it has been elsewhere. The great advantage of such a system is that it has the support of the natives themselves; and that, by adopting it, it is possible to obtain the natives' concurrence in carrying it out. In Formosa the natives are generally spoken of as savages, and unfortunately the term applies in its strictest sense to a portion of them, the hill tribes who regularly live on plunder, and among whom no one's life is safe. But there is a large portion of natives, who though of a low scale of civilisation, are not completely savage. They at least have certain recognised customs by means of which a rough kind of justice is maintained among themselves; and it is well worth while making the attempt to use these as a basis upon which the Courts may act in settling their disputes and maintaining order.

Of course there are limits beyond which a system of this kind cannot be carried; and it is the part of those who have to apply it to see that no custom manifestly unjust is acted upon. There is at first some difficulty in ascertaining with accuracy what really are the customs, but this difficulty is usually got over by consulting the persons who are recognised by the people themselves as authorities on this subject. This is the plan which is resorted to in certain cases in India and which has long been adopted with success in the Colony of Natal. Indeed a judge well informed upon general principles of jurisprudence, can without difficulty grasp the

effective meaning of such customs even though they come to him in a foreign shape, and often he can by his judgments properly explained to the natives, gradually modify them and improve upon them where they require alteration without entirely ignoring them. By this means the natives are by degrees brought to sympathise with the principles of a more enlightened jurisprudence without having their prejudices roused by seeing cherished customs altogether set aside. It is not unnatural that men who have been imbued with more advanced ideas are inclined to set aside such customs altogether; but experience proves that such drastic measures are likely to lead to disappointment and possibly to trouble. Much may be done, as above pointed out, by a gradual modification of the principles upon which a half civilised and subject people have long proceeded. In the main such customs are really a first attempt at securing the main principles of justice; and with a little tact and skill they can be brought more and more into accord with those of civilised nations.

THE IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

(Daily Press 11th June).

That the Imperial Conference of the Colonial Premiers was not altogether a success is undeniable, and to account for this there were doubtless more than one sufficient reason. Perhaps of all these the most efficient was the fact that however of late the individual members tried to disguise it, the Government presided over by Sir HENRY CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN was distinctly out of sympathy with the movement. Still the little that was done was on the whole satisfactory, so far as it went, and that may be accepted as much as could be expected considering the antecedents of His Majesty's present administration. As a matter of fact, indeed, it was only the universal display of a public opinion in favour of the objects of the Conference that at the last moment determined the Little Englanders of the Government to allow their preconceived ideas of centrifugalism to remain for the nonce, at least, in abeyance. Another potent factor was doubtless that dislike to innovation, and a prevailing desire to safeguard the first step, which is instinctive in the race, and which prevails through the Colonies to an even wider degree than at home; and which with the principal Colonial premiers, and more especially with Sir WILFRED LAURIER led to a hesitancy about the very first step that seemed contrary to his usual quickness of grasp. Two important things with regard to the future of the Conference have, however, been settled; the first of this is that it is to be abiding and not sporadic; the second, that it is to be Imperial and not merely Colonial, and as such to be presided over by the Premier of England as senior, and not by an elected President, nor by the head of the Foreign Office, whose status as chief only of a subordinate office must carry less weight than that of the head of the Government of the day. The first of these carries with it the intimation that the British Premier sits as *primus inter pares*, not as one outside whose authority was exoteric. It was evident that behind all there was a feeling of reserve on the part of the Colonial representatives, not altogether without justification from history, that beneath the shadow of what was proposed to be called a "Council" there lay hidden the germs of what might at some time or other be available for interfering with that autonomy of action which the direct conduct of the Home

Government had raised into a colonial tradition. Even without going back to the lamentable results of the Georgian policy of Colonial Taxation, there were later episodes that seemed to indicate that the wishes and interests of the Colonies were not always paramount in the minds of home statesmen, and examples as in the Newfoundland fishery affair, where Colonial wishes were deliberately set aside, without even the courteous preliminary of saying "By your leave, Gentlemen", were not likely to increase the confidence of the Colonies in a British Council. Thoughts like these were evidently at the bottom of the seemingly needless declaration that no resolutions of the Conference should have executive authority, and show how very far still the Empire is from practical confederation. In fact the home country will have much to do to compensate for the backway made within the last eighteen months by the Government of all the talents. Perhaps after all it is best so, for if the Conference had been held under Mr. BALFOUR's Administration by which it had been arranged, many of these safeguards since found necessary would have been neglected, and an entirely wrong opinion of the functions and powers of the home Ministry of the day caused a disastrous break up when first the Conference met to discuss real business.

Fortunately, too perhaps, the late Conference has had nothing more important to discuss than preferential Tariffs. Here the Conference was sure to come at cross purposes with the present Government, but the effect, notwithstanding the attitude of the Government has been on the whole satisfactory, and there is no doubt that the opposition to a reform of the Tariffs as between the Home Land and the Colonies has sensibly weakened. Most of the Home constituencies had never, in fact, heard the subject discussed outside the Hustings, where of course each party confined itself in great measure to its party cries of the day. To hear the subject spoken to and discussed by statesmen altogether outside the ring of mere English politics was to the majority of people in England a new revelation. To the Premier of the Commonwealth the effect of the discussion on the intimate relations of Unionist, Liberal, or Radical was of no interest whatever; its effect on the Empire at large, and the relations between the Home country and the Commonwealth were all that concerned him in his representative character, and that he should have spoken on this subject with no half-hearted reservation will be accepted throughout the Home country as a clear indication that there is something more in the policy urged by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN than the experts of the Cobden Club would have the people of the British Islands believe.

Another subject of interest discussed at the Conference cannot be passed over in the most superficial review without notice, and that is the by no means satisfactory condition in which the Permanent Secretariat has been arranged. From the general drift of the discussions it was apparently intended that it should form an entirely independent section of Government, free from party control. This under the system in the end hurriedly adopted is only very partially the case. It is, in fact, to be merely a section of the Colonial Office, and responsible to the Colonial Secretary for the time being. It is true the scheme was left unfinished, and what is perhaps more to the purpose, there was no precedent to go on. The very essence of an Imperial Department is that it should be entirely outside of party politics, but probably the step was too wide

to take all at once; and the present device was acknowledged as at best a stop-gap to be properly constituted when experience had shown the needs of the post. Most reasonable men in the Empire are thoroughly sick of the absurd lengths to which the practice of party Government has been carried, and it seems a pity that of this, the first opportunity that has presented itself for a long time of bettering the position, more advantage has not been taken.

IMAGINATION.

(Daily Press, 12th June.)

A casual remark sometimes made by a bystander observing a procession of Chinese coolies leads to reflections on the subject of imagination. These patient labourers, laughing and chattering amongst themselves, frequently prompt foreigners who have some idea of their lot to wonder at their apparent happiness. Working hard day after day for twenty cents or less, procuring thereby only the meagrest portion of the barest necessities, how can they afford to laugh? The foreigner, in comparison with them surfeited with luxuries, has his lines of care, and perhaps in the midst of worrying over something or other, remarks the cheerfulness of the coolie. They are "better off" than he is, he concludes, and says something platitudinal about the complexities of civilization and the advantages of the Simple Life. "We cry for things we imagine we need," one such person said the other day, and one of his words seemed arrestive. Was there a clue in the word "imagination"? A form of reproach not uncommon is to say of a person that he lacks imagination. Imagination, it is generally understood, is a quality of the higher civilization. Its possession in a marked degree denotes status: its possessor is one of the highest products of evolution: if manifested in art, his "gift" makes him a genius. It is talked of as "the gift", be it noted, and none question its value. Can it be that the popular estimate is too sweeping—that there is another side of the shield to betray the disadvantages of imagination? If we turn to the Bible, with its score of references to the faculty, we find that other side of the shield exclusively pictured. It is always vain or wicked. In no instance is the human imagination cited therein as in anyway a good quality. SHAKESPEARE, as he always does, notices many sides.

"The lunatic, the lover, and the poet
Are of imagination all compact."

The imaginations of the lunatic we can guess at. We call them hallucinations, but both words fit. There is really little need for the hairsplitting definitions of CRABBE, TRENCH, and other precisians of that gender. The imaginations of the lover, also, we describe as pleasing fancies, and predict that his anticipatory images will breed disappointment. The imagination of the poet is the particular kind that has led to the popular and indiscriminating esteem for the faculty. It is a source of intellectual elevation, leading to a mental Parnassus. Scientifically, psychologically, we know that the word is misleading. There is really no such thing. What we call imagination, even in its noblest forms, becomes, under analysis, a mere mosaic of conceptions derived from experience, from perceptions of previous actualities. Thus MILTON's great imagery of the unquenchable lake of fire, grand as it is from a literary point of view, is to the psychologist no more than an exaggerated concept founded on experiences of little earthly conflagrations. The pain and dread that particular fancy or

imagination has caused to countless thousands of worthy people serves to bring us back to the point that the faculty of imagination may not be always a source of happiness to the average human being. Some such idea as that which caused WHITMAN to remark that the beasts of the field do not lie awake at night thinking of their sins seems possible in the case of our illustrative coolies. Do they maintain their cheerfulness because they have less imagination than those who envy them? The suggestion is not implausible. Certainly many of us suffer from a too lively imagination. If it be of the anticipatory pleasant kind, it is not worth the certainty of later disillusion; if it be unpleasant, we are not compensated for the preliminary dread by the subsequent dissipation of the bogie. This latter kind of imagination is very common, and we must add to SHAKESPEARE's list of the lunatic, lover, and poet, the coward. Elsewhere, indeed, the bard has noted that individual's form of imagination as when into the mouth of CAESAR he puts the words, "Cowards die many times before their deaths." The thousand little worries of ordinary daily life may many of them be included in the category. The shadows that harbinger coming events are always bigger than their cause. The imagined trouble of to-morrow is greater than the positive discomfort of to-day. We are perturbed over things that do not matter because we imagine they may or will matter. The so-called "gift" of imagination makes the heir to a legacy unhappy in showing him a dozen ways in which he may lose his inheritance; it curses the healthy man with vivid impressions of possible infections; it peoples the dark, the unknown, with horrid creatures; and though we cannot deny the "pleasures of imagination," it seems we must emphasise its sorrows also. The rose of imagination, in short, has its thorns; and there is the temptation to envy the coolie who, if he enjoy not the fragrance and colour of the flowers, at least seems able to ignore the prickles.

WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE.

(Daily Press, 13th June.)

It is a curious coincidence that at the time when the Chinese took steps to study Western Institutions and sent a Commission to Europe to obtain information as to their working, more especially in regard to Representative Government, a movement should have taken shape, which of all others is calculated to make the Celestial mind sceptical as to the advantages to be derived from their adoption. The idea of women taking any practical part in the government of the country—the Empress Dowager always excepted—must seem to the Chinese the acme of absurdity. If any members of the Commission happened to be in the House of Commons, when it was besieged by the suffragists, they must indeed have felt reason to congratulate themselves upon having ocular demonstration of what the introduction of Western institutions is likely to lead to. That the most august political assembly in the Kingdom should be invaded by a screaming body of advanced women demanding the suffrage, so far as the attentions of the Police would allow their voices to be heard, must have appeared the queerest of all the queer things that the Chinese have ever heard of on the part of the outer barbarians. Fancy such an invasion of a Chinese Council or Yamen! The thing is absolutely unthinkable, and it is this is the logical conclusion of recognising the rights of the people, the Commissioners would probably deem themselves justified in

recommending that they should be left severely alone.

The women's voting question however still attracts a great deal of discussion and bids fair to become a standing dish during the silly season. The subject is one open to so much high sounding platitude on the one side and to so much superficial "chaff" on the other, that it is difficult to get people to look upon it in its plain practical light. The object of giving certain persons a vote for Parliamentary representatives is broadly speaking two-fold—to secure first that the Government of the country shall be in conformity with the wishes of the large majority and secondly that the best talent may be obtained for carrying on the Government. Upon neither of these grounds can it be said that cause has been shown for so momentous a change as the suffragists and "suffragettes" are clamouring to see introduced. That the positions of women both legally and politically has up to recent times been anomalous is not to be denied. This was only a result of the old ideas partly of Roman and partly of Feudal origin which have formed so important an element in the history not only of Britain but of all European nations. These ideas however have been largely modified in recent times and in our own country have practically almost ceased to exist. In respect to women, legislation of late years has been markedly in their favour. Their eligibility for election on School Boards is a notable instance of this as regards their political and social status; while the Married Women's Property Act of 1882 did away with the last remnant of anything in the form of subjection of women either as to their personal powers or as to their property. There is, therefore, no cause for complaint that the rights and interests of women are disregarded by Parliaments elected by mere men—nor indeed has any such ground been taken up—the complaint being that women are not recognised as on an equality with the other sex. This, in a certain sense, is no doubt true, but it is so only in respect to the particular matter of voting—not as to their rights and status generally.

A consideration, however, of the reasons why voting power should be granted must make it plain that there is ample grounds why women should not have the vote. This will be so at least as long as society continues to be constituted as it is. Whatever may be the state of matters if women, as is possible, take a very much larger part in the business side of life than at present, as long as men have the onus and responsibility of the conduct of the particular kind of work which in the aggregate makes up the active life of the State, it is obvious that their voice should have a preponderating influence on the manner in which the State is to be governed. The instincts which have been evolved by centuries of business and working habits in connection with the hard matters of life, to say nothing of their daily duties of dealing with such matters often on a very large scale, fit men more or less for taking part in the larger questions of State—while the more retired life, which, even in these advanced days, is still considered the chief sphere of women's activity, does not give them that experience in dealing with the kind of business that has to be grappled with by those upon whom the responsibility of governing the State devolves. If women generally speaking had experience of the ordinary rough business of life, if the bulk of them conducted mercantile establishments and became directors of large shipping Insurance and other

companies, they would, each in her own sphere, get something of the knowledge and training which fit men to the business of the State. All experience proves that mere book knowledge of such matters is not only insufficient but often dangerous, and this is the most that the best informed of women are likely to attain to so long as the chief sphere of their interests must of necessity lie in their homes and in social questions which naturally come within their cognisance. In their own sphere women not only have all the rights of men, but a great deal more, and the advanced persons who wish to claim the rights of men, will do well to consider how much of the privileges of women they will have to sacrifice in order to obtain them.

There is also another practical bearing of the subject which should not be overlooked. If women had the vote in a country like Great Britain, there would always be a danger of a Government being either returned or ousted by some sensational cry, which would appeal to women's feelings to the exclusion of all other and possibly much more important considerations. We have seen enough of the working of this principle in the part which the false reports about Chinese slavery in the Transvaal played in the last election. Any topic of that kind, worked up in a way which would appeal to the female imagination, would be sufficient to command a large number of their votes, and there would thus be more danger even than there is at present (which is assuredly enough) that by some similar catchwords of a taking character the female vote might be caught without any reference to or consideration of much more important issues that might be involved in a change of Government. We have had warning enough of this contingency as the franchise now stands, and will certainly do well to hesitate to introduce a radical change for which there is no real call, which will undoubtedly have the effect of increasing this danger.

JAPANESE COMMENTS ON ENGLAND.

(Daily Press, 14th June).

If to see ourselves as others see us be occasionally a good thing, we would like to see more of the kind of articles that have lately figured in the *Daily Mail*. In that increasingly popular auxiliary of the British breakfast table, Mr. K. SUGIMURA, special correspondent of the Tokyo *Asahi*, has been giving his impressions of England and English ways. It is somewhat of a bracing douche, for instance, especially to Britons residing in China, to read that England is a slave to "old custom." The Japanese observer remarks: "If I were asked the thing that has impressed me most here I would reply the strength—sometimes the tyranny—of the Unwritten Law. Custom seems to rule absolutely in this country to an extent unknown and unimagined by me before. Custom limits the action of people more absolutely in England than strict, written legislation does in my own land. The Unwritten Law of England controls from the very great to the exceedingly little, and all men bow to it. I find that my dress, the colour of my purse, and the colour of the very travelling bag I carry are decided for me by public opinion." His illustrations are sometimes forced, but here again he unwittingly helps us to see ourselves, for we are irresistibly led to suspect that similar weaknesses must be noted in foreign notes about Far Eastern peoples.

Things farfetched and half understood are the weapons common to the globetrotter of all nations. As a matter of fact, with regard to fashion and dress conventions, Mr. SUGIMURA errs only in imagining that Japan is free from them. On the subject of English servants and their familiar way of speaking, Mr. SUGIMURA shares the same disadvantage as the foreign visitor to Japan. He did not discover the true type. The globetrotter's essay on Japanese servants takes cognisance only of the species that has evolved to wait upon his kind, and this Japanese visitor's ideas of the English servant were evidently based on experiences of the waiter in a London chop-house. It is true he met another kind, but he has no complaint to make of the butler's manners. They must have been irreproachable. The incident is well worth repeating:

One evening I visited a certain house and rang the bell. A gentleman came to the door and opened it. He was dressed in evening clothes; he was quite a fine-looking fellow, and spoke English very fluently, and he must have been an Englishman. I took off my hat in deference. I bowed very low, in Japanese fashion (for in my country we often bow like a carpenter's measure), then I held out my hand to shake hands with him. I, of course, thought that he was an honoured member of the household. Imagine what was my chagrin when I afterwards found that he was a butler!

Our critic waxes a little superior occasionally, as when he discovers that the English fad of the moment is the immemorial custom of Japan. The "fresh air" cure? Japan has believed in pneumotherapy for the past 2,500 odd years. And so on. He rightly condemns the over-furnishing of the English living room, but then, English writers have already dwelt on that, and the Japanese are just as much slaves to lumber, only they stow it away differently. On the subject of women and clothes, there will arise many to say that Mr. SUGIMURA has scored a bull. They will say it as if jestingly, but with an undertone of earnestness. Mr. SUGIMURA the intrepid hints that "it is possible English ladies would gain more than they lost if they devoted more time to home affairs." He is shocked by their affecting the kimono, doubtless because they wear it wrongly, but he firmly condemns the big hat and the trailing skirt, and to him, evening frocks are indecent.

"Corsets have been so much discussed that I shall not deal with them, except to state my hope that it will be a long time before they come into general use in Japan. If I have gone too far in what I say, and if my readers find anything offensive in my frank speech, kindly remember that I am a stranger, knowing nothing of your social etiquette."

He thinks that even good wives are too familiar with their husbands, in England. He prefers the Japanese fashion. "We think in Japan that the husband is greater than the wife, and that the wife should do him reverence and pay him respect. We have many good arguments to support us in so thinking, but this is not the place to advance them." What will he say when he sees a mob of suffragettes?

Mr. J. F. C. da Roza, whose death is announced in our obituary column, was the last survivor of the forty Portuguese heroes in the memorable Passa-cad victory. He resided in Hongkong for over 50 years, was for many years a director of the Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd., and was the original member of the Club Lusitano. He was also a prominent figure in the Stockbrokers' Association of Hongkong. In 1901 he left the Colony to open a cigar factory in Manila, but returned here in May.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 13th instant in the Council Chamber.

PRESENT:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE OFFICER ADMINISTERING THE GOVERNMENT, Hon. Mr. F. H. MAY, C.M.G.

MAJOR-GENERAL R. G. BROADWOOD, C.B., A.C.D.

Hon. Mr. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. Mr. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ (Attorney-General).

Hon. Mr. C. McI. MESSER (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. Mr. W. CHATHAM (Director of Public Works).

Hon. Mr. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

Hon. Mr. F. J. BADELEY (Captain-Superintendent of Police).

Hon. Dr. HO KAI, M.B., C.M., C.M.G.

Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C.

Hon. Mr. E. A. HEWETT.

Hon. Mr. E. OSBORNE.

Hon. Mr. H. KESWICK.

Mr. A. G. M. FLETCHER (Clerk of Councils).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read, and confirmed.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY, by command of His Excellency the Acting Governor, laid on the table the report of the Registrar-General for the year 1906.

QUESTIONS.

The HON. DR. HO KAI—I beg to put the questions standing in my name.

The questions were as under:—

(1) What steps does the Government propose to take, and when, in regard to carrying out the recommendations of the Public Health and Building Ordinance Commission?

(2) If the Government does not propose to carry out the recommendations of the Commission *in toto*, which of such recommendations does the Government propose not to carry out?

(3) Will the Government make a statement of what they propose to do with regard to the recommendations of the Commission?

The COLONIAL SECRETARY replied as follows:

(1) A precis is laid on the table showing how Government has dealt with certain of the recommendations, how it proposes to deal with others, and how many are still under consideration.

(2) An Ordinance amending the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance will be necessary and steps are being taken to prepare one. It is impossible at present to fix a definite date for its introduction.

(3) Recommendations that do not require an amendment of the Law and which are approved will be carried out as soon as possible having regard to the circumstances in each case.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDINGS ORDINANCE AMENDMENT.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance, 1903.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded. In doing so he said—In connection with this the question of compensation may arise and I beg to lay on the table a copy of the petition presented to the Governor by landlords with regard to compensation under the Bill of 1902 which subsequently became law in 1903. From this it will be seen that the landowners were perfectly well satisfied with all the concessions except one which was subsequently granted.

HIS EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, Before I put the question to the Council concerning the passing of the first reading of this Bill I would beg leave to make a few remarks. I shall not be altogether in order in so doing but perhaps the Council will grant me the indulgence in the present circumstances. This is the first instalment of the legislation which will become necessary owing to the recommendations made by the Commissioners who have inquired into the administration of the Sanitary Department. I trust that this Bill and the precis of those recommendations containing the proposals of the Government thereon will be

accepted as an earnest of the fact that the Government propose to deal thoroughly and honestly with the report of the Commissioners. It would appear, gentlemen, recently what I may call the domestic-political atmosphere has been somewhat surcharged with electricity. It would seem as if the impression was abroad that the Government did not propose to deal in a sympathetic manner with the recommendations of the Commissioners. Now, gentlemen, I would beg to remind you that the report of the Commissioners criticises in a scathing manner a department for the administration of which the Government is more or less responsible. It fell to the lot of certain officers to reply to those criticisms and in their turn to criticise. It happened that the officers upon whom the duty fell represented the Rose, the Shamrock and the Thistle. Now, I need hardly remind you that if you roughly handle the rose or the thistle they are bound to prick you. As for that innocent little plant, the shamrock, is it not the emblem of a race which is not accustomed to sit down silently under a grievance? The Government consider that in this matter they have somewhat of a grievance, for the report of the Commissioners charges them in fact with adopting an unsympathetic attitude on what I may call their plague policy towards the Chinese population. Well, gentlemen, having received a broadside from the Commissioners and having returned that broadside we are now only too anxious to consider in the most sympathetic manner the recommendations and suggestions which the Commissioners have made. (Applause.) I indicated as much in the few remarks I made at the opening of this session but somehow or other these remarks seem to have been forgotten or in the heat of controversy they have been discounted. Amongst the several recommendations and suggestions by the Commissioners there is one to which I would like to refer at some little length. That is the question of cubicles. Now, gentlemen, that is a most important subject, for it touches the living accommodation of the poorer classes of the Chinese community. I have during the last few months, since my return from leave, devoted a great deal of time and a great deal of thought to this question. I have studied it not in my office in an arm-chair but by going out into the town and revisiting blocks of houses with which I have been well acquainted during the last fourteen years owing to the opportunities offered to me while I was in the police, while I worked in two plague epidemics, and while I was a member of the Sanitary Board. The result of my inspection, I would like to say here, is that I find that the town as a whole is in a far more sanitary condition just now than ever I have known it before. I think that a great deal of credit for this fact is due to the Sanitary Board, to the officers who had the direct control of the sanitary staff, and to the sanitary staff itself, and last but not least to the Chinese community who have learned to appreciate the value of keeping thoroughly clean their own domestic dwellings. But my inspection proved to me one thing, and that is that the existing law relating to cubicles has failed. (Hear, hear, and applause.) We hoped, gentlemen, those who sat around this table for many weeks considering that Ordinance, No. 1 of 1903 and No. 23 of 1903, that by prohibiting cubicles in new houses we should force landowners to put up a more sanitary type of dwelling. I may tell you that our hopes are woefully disappointed. The sort of thing that happens is this. Houses have to be rebuilt: architects send in plans to us showing the old deep funneled shaped type of house lighted fore and aft but not at the side with which we are familiar. I received one of these plans not long ago myself and we wrote to the architect on behalf of the owner. We said we beg to remind you that when these houses are built cubicles will not be allowed on the floors. The architect wrote back in polite terms "you mind your own business. The cubicles are regulated by the law and we know the law as well as you." What will be the fate of those houses? The owner will let them to another man who will sub-let them by the floor. The lessees of the floors, if the floors are inhabited as tenement dwellings, will sub-let them to a number of different families.

As soon as the families come in they will put up cubicles. In comes the sanitary inspector, down go the cubicles. Out goes the sanitary inspector up go the cubicles again. And so this kind of Sisyphusian jugglery goes on. You never really get rid of these cubicles. After a time along comes an epidemic and some Europeans are attacked by the disease. There is an immediate outcry "what is the negligent Government doing? Why don't they clear out these hotbeds of disease?" The hotbeds are then cleared out. An interval of some years elapses during which plague is checked but trade gets very bad and things are depressed. Then the same people come forward and say "These Government officials are well named blighters, for they blight the whole land by their unreasonable regulations. Whoever hears of asking the Chinese families to live without cubicles?" So the sordid story goes on to the end of the chapter. Now, gentlemen, I am perfectly convinced that you will have this cubicle question with you as long as you live, unless you take steps to force the owners of property to put up sanitary houses in which cubicle-like rooms can be built in which Chinese families can decently live. I believe such can be done without loss. We have made proposals under which a larger number of people will be allowed to inhabit decently sanitary houses than were allowed under the old type. I am in great hopes that the community as a whole will take this subject into their most serious consideration and try to arrive this time at some method of dealing with this question which will really settle it once of all. It is a very serious matter and affects the prosperity of the Colony. Plague means loss of money, but there are other epidemics of disease besides plague to be thought of, and as long as an insanitary type of house is allowed to be built *ad infinitum*, one insanitary type of house to replace another that has gone before it, there will never be any permanent improvement. Gentlemen, I have made these few remarks because I consider that of all the points that have been brought forward in the report of the Commission there is no point which has a greater bearing on the prosperity of the Colony than this question of the housing of the Chinese population.

The HON. MR. HEWETT—Your Excellency, with your permission I would like to make a few remarks in reply to what you have just said and also in regard to the paper laid on the table this afternoon. If I am not in order you will no doubt inform me of the fact and I will then give notice of what I propose to say later on.

There being no reply,

The HON. MR. HEWETT continued—Your Excellency has spoken generally on the wording of the report. I can only say as a member of this Council and of the late Commission I am only too glad to receive the assurances that the recommendations which presumably were made in the interests of the community at large will receive the fullest possible sympathy of the Government. There are a few points to which I would like to refer. The first is the paper No. 24, a copy of which has been laid on the table and which includes a copy of the letter dated 3rd December, 1902, addressed to His Excellency Sir Henry Blake by Mr. Shelton Hooper. That letter, as your Excellency will remember, was specially referred to in your memorandum on the report of the Commission. Considerable attention was directed in that memorandum to the statements then made by Mr. Shelton Hooper. Having been a member of the Commission, of which he was also a member, I very naturally asked him how it came about that he had signed, along with other members of the Commission, the recommendations which were contained in the body of report in view of that letter. Mr. Hooper explained to me that the letter was written under a misapprehension, consequently what I am about to say takes the form of a personal explanation on behalf of him as one of my colleagues on the late Commission. I trust I shall be allowed therefore on behalf of Mr. Hooper to make an explanation showing that he has been perfectly consistent throughout in what he has written. As Your Excellency will remember when the draft bill No. 1 of 1903 was put before the public the principal landowners in Hongkong, including about twelve

firms, asked a certain number of architects to make a report, paragraph by paragraph on this bill. This was done. These landowners subsequently forwarded a petition to the Governor dated 28th September, 1902, enclosing a copy of the report of these architects. In the draft bill paragraph 170, which is now paragraph 175, one of the most contentious in the existing Ordinance, contained reference to open spaces (reads) The criticism by the committee was that if these words "by the owner" were interpolated then compensation must be insisted upon. Section 175, now section 181 of the existing Ordinance, also spoke of compensation with regard to back lanes and so forth. As originally drafted no provision was made for compensation but on the representations of certain property owners words were incorporated in subsection 3 section 175 (now 181) providing that the amount of compensation to be paid to the owner should be determined by arbitration. At the time Mr. Hooper wrote the letter, December 3rd, 1902, it was only about six weeks after the petition had been forwarded to the Governor—that was before the final draft had been passed by the Council—in any case about a month before that bill became law. Mr. Hooper in writing to Sir Henry Blake referred to the same question of compensation and it was perfectly true that he made use of the words quoted by your Excellency in your memorandum. (Reads) Mr. Hooper tells me that when he wrote that letter through a misconception which he regrets, he was not thoroughly conversant with the new Bill before it was finally passed. When he wrote that letter he was under the impression that the Government had honestly and loyally adopted the recommendations put forward in the report which had been drawn up at the instance of the landowners. That is Mr. Hooper's explanation. I think it is only right that your Excellency should have given me, as you have done, the opportunity of making a personal explanation in this chamber in view of the great publicity and considerable weight attached to the letter of Mr. Shelton Hooper, which he tells me was written under a misapprehension. He would not have written what he did had he realised that the compensation which owners had so strongly insisted on upon and was only their just due had been eliminated or rather had not been adopted. This is the explanation and I beg to thank Your Excellency for allowing me to make it. I do not think that it was quite right that the Government should take advantage and make capital out of a letter written in a moment of misconception by a gentleman who had some five years later been a member of the Commission. With regard to Your Excellency's remarks generally I can only say that no doubt there will be full opportunity given to honourable members before long to discuss the report and the papers bearing upon it. That being so it is quite unnecessary to reply this afternoon in detail to what Your Excellency has said. There is one point however to which I must refer. We gratefully accept the assurance by Your Excellency that the Government are prepared to receive the report in a sympathetic manner. I trust that that will be proved by facts but I can only say that judging by the official papers which have been laid before this Council I fail to see any real sympathy on the part of the Government towards this report. The gentlemen who collaborated with me in this report and myself spent a great deal of time—far longer than we had any idea of when we were called upon to act, amounting to nearly a year—in seriously considering one of the most important questions that has arisen in this Colony for a great number of years and which practically affects not only the Government but every single resident. Clearly therefore when such an important question was brought up there should be no question of parochial, or party politics or whatever you like to call it. It should be the sincere wish of all those engaged in considering the report to treat it in the most sympathetic manner and try to arrive at a conclusion which will bring about the end to which I am sure all the official and non-official members are working, that is the very best interests of the Colony in which we are situated. That being so I must say with all due respect that I regret Your Excellency should have made use of the word abuse.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I did not use the word abuse.

THE HON. MR. HEWETT—I beg your pardon, Your Excellency. I withdraw my remark. In any case you spoke of the report having given the Government a broadside. That was not intended. There was no question of an exchange of broadsides between the non-official members and the Government in this matter. In the report the members of the Commission honestly, sincerely and fearlessly stated exactly, after nearly a year's careful consideration, what they found to be the existing state of affairs. That it was a most ungracious and difficult task we realised from the first. When His Excellency Sir Matthew Nathan first asked me to become a member of the committee and later chairman of the Commission which resulted, I knew perfectly well from my knowledge gained during nearly thirty years in the Far East, of which fifteen years had been spent in Hongkong, and from my knowledge gained during three or four years' work on the Sanitary Board that we would be compelled to pass very strong criticism upon certain sections of the administration of this great department and as a natural consequence I should have unfortunately as a member of the commission to sign my name to comments on the official action of gentlemen who have been personal friends, some very good personal friends, for a great number of years. In accepting that my colleagues and myself felt that any comment we might have to make was justified by the fact that His Excellency felt constrained to appoint a Commission with all the powers of a Royal Commission so as to sift the whole matter to the bottom. We did our duty as well as we could. We are all human and fallible and liable to error. We realise that it would be absurd to expect the Government to adopt our report in toto but we thought and expected that that report would be received in a more impartial manner and in a less hostile spirit than has been displayed by the words you used in criticism of this report. The last words Sir Matthew Nathan said in reference to this report before leaving the Colony were that he trusted it would be discussed in a spirit of impartiality, or words to that effect. That is the spirit in which the members of the Commission and, I am sure, my unofficial colleagues on the Council would wish to approach the subject. I sincerely trust that in the interests of the Colony, for which I am sure we are all working, that that will be the spirit in which we will be met by official members of this Council when the moment arrives for its discussion. I will not detain this Council any longer, Your Excellency. The questions of cubicles etc. are burning questions. We specially stated in the report that the subject of cubicles was one which required further consideration. What I do ask and hope is that we will recognise in discussing this report the necessity for meeting each other fairly and frankly, and honestly and sincerely endeavouring to discuss this question, here or elsewhere, in a spirit of perfect good friendship and unanimity, working in the best interests of the Colony. I regret having felt called upon to make these remarks, which I would not have done as a member of the late Commission had I not felt that a certain amount of personal feeling and animus had crept into the discussion. I do not say that it is altogether on one side. I regret that we have not had public feeling expressed more than in the few articles which appeared in the local papers, but I feel convinced that the feeling in the Colony is in favour of a thorough reform of the department. There is only one point to which I would specially refer in regard to these recommendations which have just been laid before us. I gather from page 7 that it is proposed to retain the Administrative Head of the department. Your Excellency, I can say looking at it entirely from the point of view which you understand I must hold I consider that as stated in our report the Sanitary Department should not be run as an entirely Government Department under the control of a Government Official, and I feel sure that further consideration and discussion will show this to be the consensus of opinion in the Colony. That the Chairman of the Sanitary Board should be a Government Official may be admitted to be feasible, and I am quite prepared to be convinced that the transfer of the Chairmanship may be

advisable. Since about the year 1888 the control of the department has been with the Board and this was confirmed by the Ordinance No. 1 of 193. It was only by this passing of No. 23 of that year that the Administration was transferred to a Government Official who had sole control of the Department. The control of this Department must revert to the Board. It must not remain as it is. The Ordinance No. 23 of 193 must be cancelled.

HIS EXCELLENCY—There is just one word I would like to say. It is in respect to the question that the honourable member has last referred to: in regard to that and all other principal questions I am only continuing the policy which received the final endorsement of Sir Matthew Nathan before he left this Colony. It is an irrefragable law of official etiquette that the Acting Governor should merely continue the policy of the departed Governor until such time as his successor arrives. However, gentlemen, I shall of course weigh anything that the hon. Member or any other hon. member has to say on this point or on any other point but I wish you to bear in mind that I am not initiating any new policy of my own. That would be an act of disloyalty to the Governor who has left the Colony. I am simply carrying on the policy which I know he himself would have adopted if he had been here.

THE HON. MR. HEWETT—I trust your Excellency does not think I was personal in my remarks. I was discussing it in an impersonal manner.

HIS EXCELLENCY—I have never had any personal feeling in the matter of this report at all. It is the privilege of a Colonial Secretary to criticise. I criticised and Sir Matthew Nathan apparently thought that those criticisms were conceived in a spirit which did not militate against proper consideration when he directed that they should be printed and laid on the table at the same time as the report of the Commission. He evidently thought that they were, taken on the whole, useful comments on the report. I am very pleased to have heard the remarks of the hon. Member and I have not the slightest doubt that we will amongst us be able to arrive at conclusions on this report which will be satisfactory to everybody and of considerable use to the Colony.

The motion was agreed to.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

The Hon. Mr. KESWICK moved the second reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to authorise the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation from time to time to increase the Capital of the said Corporation from the sum of Ten Millions of Dollars to a sum not exceeding the sum of Twenty Millions of Dollars, and to continue incorporated for a further term of 21 years; and to continue in force for a further period of 21 years the provisions of Section 3 of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ordinance, 1899, with regard to the Excess Issue of Bills and Notes payable to bearer on demand. In doing so he said:—The Bill, the second reading of which I am about to move, may be subdivided under three heads:—First the increase from time to time of the capital of the H. & S. B. C. from ten millions to a sum not exceeding twenty millions; second the incorporation of the Bank for a further period of 21 years; and third, the continuation for a period of 21 years of the provisions of section III. of the H. & S. B. C. Ordinance of 1899 with regard to its excess note issue. Besides its very large interest in this Colony, the Bank is by far the most important financial institution in China, and the scope of its work is so well known to all hon. members that they cannot but approve the desire of the shareholders to obtain the sanction of the Government for an increase of capital. That the shareholders also wish the incorporation of the Bank for a further period of 21 years hardly calls for any comment. I think you will agree with me that it is most desirable to have this leading Bank closely identified with the Colony. As regards the note issue, which is a matter of public interest, I would remind the hon. members that under the existing deed of settlement the Bank is authorised to issue notes to the amount of its present capital of \$10,000,000 against the deposit of approved securities for 1/3rd of the amount with the Crown Agents of the Colony

in London. Though permission is asked to increase the capital to \$20,000,000, you are no doubt aware that the Bank does not propose to increase its capital beyond \$15,000,000 at present. The Bill before us continues the conditions attaching to the Bank's present note issue, but for the increase of 5,000,000, it calls upon the Bank to deposit coin and or securities to the full value thereof with the British Government either in London or in Hongkong. In the general interests of the Colony the Bank was allowed in 1898 to issue notes, in excess of its authorized issue, against the deposit of coin or bullion with the Hongkong Government—dollar for dollar—and a continuation of this permission is provided for by the last clause of the Bill. I think hon. members will agree with me that the interests of the public as noteholders are adequately protected by the conditions of the Bill. I now move the second reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

The Council resolved itself into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On resuming,

The Hon. Mr. KESWICK moved the third reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and the resolution was agreed to.

NEDERLANDSCH INDISCHE HANDELSBANK.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the first reading of a Bill entitled An Ordinance for giving to a Foreign Company called the Nederlandsch-Indische Handelsbank certain facilities for carrying on its business in the Colony.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and this was agreed to.

BILLS OF EXCHANGE ORDINANCE.

The ATTORNEY GENERAL moved the third reading of the Bill entitled An Ordinance to amend the Bills of Exchange Ordinance, 1885.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded, and this was agreed to.

HIS EXCELLENCY—The Council stands adjourned till this day week.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on June 11th at the Board Room. The Hon. Dr. J. M. Atkinson (President) presided, and there were also present Hon. Mr. W. Chatham (Vice-President), Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Hon. Mr. A. W. Brewin (Registrar General), Dr. H. McFarlane (Assistant Medical Officer of Health), Hon. Mr. F. J. Badesley (Captain Superintendent of Police), Major T. P. Jones, R.A.M.C., Hon. Mr. E. A. Hewett, Mr. H. Humphreys, Mr. A. Shelton Hooper, Mr. Lau Chu-pak, Mr. Fung Wa-chun, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (secretary).

THE COMMISSIONER'S REPORT.

Mr. HOOPER, pursuant to notice, asked:—

1. Whether the president of the Sanitary Board will ask the Government if the Schedule B in the Appendix to the printed report of the Public Health and Building Ordinance Commission which was sent to the Board and laid on the table at the last meeting, is a true copy of the Schedule B of the original report.

2. If not, in what respect does it differ, and by whose authority was any alteration or addition made?

3. Whether Schedule A of Appendix No. 1 of such report which is stated in the copy sent to the Board as not printed, is printed in whole or in part, in such copy.

The PRESIDENT replied:

1. It is not.

2. It differs by the addition of eight members of the Sanitary Department who have ceased to be members since the Commission set by the authority of the Officer Administering the Government.

3. The names of those eight members were extracted from Schedule A, which contained three lists of names, viz., (a) Names of members of the Department whose cases have been enquired into and against whom the Commissioners stated that the charges had not in their opinion been proved; (b) Names of members who had been reported to and dealt with by the Government, and (c) The names of two officers whose cases the Commissioners

considered required further inquiry. The Government never publishes the names of officers who are tried and acquitted, and it is obviously undesirable to publish the names of those whose cases are still pending.

Mr. HOOPER—Sir, perhaps it is irregular. I don't want to raise any discussion—but I think if you will allow me to say a few words in connection with this—

The PRESIDENT—I am afraid you are not in order. When questions are asked and answers are given, no discussion can take place unless to elucidate.

Mr. HOOPER—It is to elucidate.

The PRESIDENT—Will you put it in the form of a question.

Mr. HOOPER—I was going to correct you. You use the word 'members.' We (the Commission) say 'officers against whom charges were made.' It is rather important because in schedule B you have incorporated portion of schedule A in which the word 'officers' is used, whereas if you look at the heading of schedule B you will see that it says "servants of the department." There is a distinct difference laid down in the Ordinance regarding these terms. Again, the words "a certain officer was transferred to another department" were included. As a matter of fact those words don't appear in our report. The report is dated March 19th, when the only information the Commission had, said that that officer had been suspended previous to being dismissed by the Secretary of State. It was not until May 15th, two months afterwards, that I, or any members of the Board or Commission, knew that he had been transferred to another department.

The PRESIDENT—That is explained in paragraph 3, which gives the names of members reported to and dealt with by the Government.

Mr. HOOPER—Quite so. You have stated how he had been dealt with. But the Government cannot insert anything after I have signed my name. It would mean my signing my name to something which I don't know to be true.

AN ILLEGAL RAIN SHELTER.

The tenant of No. 14 Square Street applied to the Board for permission to retain a moveable awning at the rear of the first floor of his premises. It was only at times pulled out to keep off the rain, and did not obstruct light or ventilation in any way.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH minuted—I cannot recommend that the tenant be allowed to obstruct this small yard with a cover as it is only a half kitchen half yard arrangement, and therefore the air shaft is of the minimum size.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—The applicant says the awning is pulled out only when it rains. If so, it does not obstruct light or ventilation, and I think the request should be granted.

The tenant is to be informed that he must remove the awning.

A BOARDING HOUSE NUISANCE.

Mrs. K. L. Coggin, manageress of Carlton House, requested the board to have an offensive latrine removed from the rear of No. 10 Iochouse Street.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH minuted—I found this latrine clean, and that it had been recently limewashed. I don't think it should be removed as a greater nuisance would arise in such case owing to the large number of workmen employed in that vicinity. It will be frequently inspected to prevent, as far as possible, a nuisance being caused. It is a private latrine, on private land, and failing the creation of a nuisance, it seems to me that the only remedy is by injunction on the application of the parties aggrieved.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—Public latrines must exist, and those living in the vicinity will always endeavour to have them removed elsewhere. All that can be done is to see the place is kept as clean as possible.

An inspector is to see that this place is kept clean.

* SLOW WORK.

Messrs. Weaver and Raven, architects, applied on behalf of the tenant of 26, New Street, for permission to retain a tank at present existing in the yard of this house. A large quantity of water was required at certain times during the day for domestic purposes, and it is inconvenient to wait for the water to run from the tap in the kitchen. Hence their reason

for applying for a modification of the requirements of section 175 of the Public Health and Buildings Ordinance.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH minuted—This yard is only eight feet by six feet eight inches, and only eight persons can occupy the shop. I don't see any necessity for this tank, especially now that the water is laid on constantly, and I have frequently explained the objections to these tanks, which are that the water is liable to be fouled by refuse from the upper floors, and by dippers being put on the ground and then dipped into the tank. I cannot recommend that it be allowed.

Mr. LAU CHU-PAK—What is the business of this shop? It should be allowed to remain until a constant supply of water from the mains is assured.

Members agreed that the tank should be removed.

AN EATING HOUSE NECESSITY.

Another application for permission to retain a water tank was made by the tenant of 136, Des Vœux Road Central. He stated that his premises were used as an eating house, and it was absolutely necessary in this business to have a large and ready supply of water, therefore a water tank was required. The one at present on the premises was a fairly small one, and did not constitute an obstruction.

The MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—I can not recommend that this be granted. The yard is only 6 feet 10 inches by 5 feet 6 inches, and is obstructed by an unnecessary bridge both on the first and second floors. A notice should be served to remove the yard obstructions, including the tank. The yard has an area of 33 square feet, and the tank occupies 19 square feet.

The SECRETARY—It was decided at a previous meeting of the Board to refer the matter to the Director of Public Works to see whether the house could be supplied with a meter.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT—There does not appear to be any reason for maintaining this tank if the house can be connected direct with the water mains.

The Hon. Mr. CHATHAM moved that the Board adhere to its previous resolution.

Mr. HOOPER considered that such tanks were useful and caused very little obstruction. Every encouragement ought to be given to people to store water provided it had a proper cover and, considering the whole question, he thought it more sanitary to have the tanks there than to be without them.

Hon. Mr. HEWETT thought the tanks should be discouraged as they were breeding grounds for mosquitoes. He moved that the matter be referred to the D.P.W. to ascertain whether the house could be connected with the Government water main.

Agreed to.

OBJECTIONS TO PLAGUE HOSPITAL.

Two letters were forwarded from the Government to the Board relative to a temporary district plague hospital proposed to be erected on the hillside to the north-west of the Disinfecting Station at Kowloon. One was from the Hon. Mr. E. Osborne on behalf of the Steam Laundry Company, objecting to the erection of the hospital on that particular site; and the second was from Messrs. Siemens and Co., on behalf of the new Tobacco Factory making a similar objection.

The PRESIDENT—It appears a site has been suggested by the Registrar-General for a temporary hospital at Yau-mati, and this fact has got to the knowledge of certain people in the neighbourhood. They have written to the Board protesting against the hospital being erected there. It was only a temporary hospital.

Dr. MACFARLANE explained that the site was a considerable distance from the Laundry and there was no fear of infection from it.

The Hon. Mr. CHATHAM said there was nothing in the papers to show which site was referred to.

The Hon. REGISTRAR GENERAL—It has been sold.

The Hon. Mr. CHATHAM—Then it is useless for the Board to discuss it.

MORTALITY STATISTICS.

The mortality statistics for the week ended May 4th showed that the death rate per thousand of the British and foreign population was 20.5,

compared with 14.9 for the corresponding week of last year, and for the whole colony 19.4 compared with 19.6 for the corresponding week of last year. For the week ending May 11th the death rate of the British and foreign population was 24.6 compared with 39.9 for the corresponding week of last year and for the whole colony 21.6 compared with 27.4 for the corresponding week of last year.

SUPREME COURT.

Monday, 10th June.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT) AND THE HON. MR. E. A. HEWETT (NAUTICAL ASSESSOR).

A SALVAGE CLAIM.

An action for salvage was brought by the Hamburg-Amerika Linie and the master and crew of the s.s. "Aragonia" against the China Navigation Company, Ltd., the owners of the s.s. "Hupeh" her cargo and freight. Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. G. Hastings of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the plaintiffs, while defendants were represented by the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master).

The petition was as follows: The s.s. "Aragonia" of which the Hamburg-Amerika Linie are owners and the Portland and Asiatic Steamship Company the charterers, is an iron screw steam ship of 3,32.93 tons net register and 428 nominal horse power, and manned by a crew of 55 hands including the master, and is of the value of £45,000, and at the time of the salvage service hereafter mentioned, was carrying a general cargo of the value of \$85,000 including freight and bunker coal of the value of \$3,000. The s.s. "Hupeh" is a screw steamship of 1,205 tons net registered tonnage and manned by a crew of 38 hands including the master, and is of the value of \$25,000, and at the time of the salvage services hereafter mentioned was carrying a cargo of the value of \$115,000 including freight and bunker coal and 58 passengers. On 6th December 1906, at 11 a.m. the s.s. "Aragonia" was on a voyage from Moji, Japan, to Hongkong, when those on board sighted a steamship which proved to be the "Hupeh," anchored in 27.16 north latitude and 121.25 east longitude, and the "Hupeh" signalled "my ship disabled: will you tow me to a safe anchorage? Have you a rope ready? I have the main shaft broken." The main shaft of the "Hupeh" had broken on 5th December, and she had since that day been disabled, but had been unable to procure assistance. At this time a strong north-east monsoon was blowing, and a heavy sea running. The "Aragonia" was with difficulty and danger manoeuvred near to the "Hupeh," and those on board were understood to request to be towed to Hongkong. The s.s. "Aragonia" was then with difficulty and danger anchored sufficiently near and ahead of the "Hupeh" to enable a towing rope to be passed between the two vessels. After considerable trouble owing to the heavy sea running, a wire towing rope was passed to the "Hupeh" and shackled to a chain on the latter vessel, and at 3.35 p.m. towing commenced and continued throughout the rest of the day and night, and the following day until about 7.10 p.m. when the chain to which the rope was attached broke and the ships had to anchor and wait for daylight. On the night of the 6th December and on 7th December towage was rendered very difficult on account of the high sea running and wind blowing and the consequent bad steering of the "Hupeh." There was a great risk of the two ships losing connection, and to lessen this danger the "Aragonia" was steered inside Ooksen Island so as to get into smoother water, but thereby the risks of navigation were materially increased. Shortly after daylight on the 8th December the tow rope was passed afresh, and the "Hupeh" towed into the outer and then into the inner harbour of Amoy, and the rope disconnected at 1.20 p.m. The total length of the tow from where the "Hupeh" was first seen was 270 miles. The "Aragonia" was delayed in Amoy by the necessity of taking in fresh water to replace that consumed during

the towage, and could not leave Amoy until the 9th December at 4 a.m., and reached Hongkong at 5.35 a.m. on the 10th December. By reason of rendering the above-mentioned services to the "Hupeh" the "Aragonia" used extra coal to the value of \$1,417.50 and her charterers had to expend \$91.25 for overtime to give consignees prompt delivery of their cargo, and the charterers had to pay the owners three days' charter money at the rate of U. S. gold \$300 per day, amounting to Mexican \$1,651.27 for the time occupied in rendering the said services. In rendering the said services a heavy strain was put upon the hull, engines and gear of the "Aragonia" and considerable risk of serious damage incurred and considerable labour, exertion and danger were undergone by her master and crew. The plaintiffs therefore claimed (1) such an amount of salvage as to the Court shall seem fit (2) that the defendants be ordered to pay to plaintiffs such amount and costs.

In their answer to the petition the defendants admitted the first part of paragraph 1 but denied the other allegations in that paragraph. They, however, admitted the allegations in the paragraph 2, save that the "Hupeh" was of the value of £18,000 only and not of the value of £25,000. The defendants admitted the statements in paragraph 3 of the petition except that they stated that the s.s. "Hupeh" was anchored in 27.22 north latitude and 12.13 east longitude, and except that they stated that the only signal made by the "Hupeh" to the "Aragonia" was "Can you tow me to a safe anchorage?" The propeller shaft of the s.s. "Hupeh" broke at 7.35 p.m. on the 5th December, and she thereupon anchored in the safe anchorage in 28 fathoms of water and paid out about 90 fathoms of chain. The "Hupeh" was in no danger whatever either then or at the time when the "Aragonia" began to tow her, or at any time between these periods. In answer to paragraph 4 of the petition the defendants said: There was a strong north-east monsoon blowing with a rough sea. The s.s. "Aragonia," however, manoeuvred near to the "Hupeh" without any difficulty or danger and the "Aragonia" encountered no difficulty or danger in anchoring ahead of the "Hupeh" so as to enable a steel hawser for towing to be passed between the two vessels. Those on board the "Hupeh" never requested to be towed to Hongkong, but requested to be towed to Matsui. The defendants intended to wire a report of the accident from Sharp Peak. In answer to paragraph 5 of the petition the defendants said: There was considerable trouble but no difficulty or danger, owing to the state of the sea and the weight of the steel hawser in passing it from the "Aragonia" to the "Hupeh," but such work was done solely by the second officer and seamen of the "Hupeh," who passed along such hawser in a boat belonging to the "Hupeh," and no difficulty or danger in connection with the work was incurred by those on board the "Aragonia." The towing commenced at 3.31 p.m. and so soon as the vessels were steadied on their course, which was about southwest, thus bringing the wind and sea astern, the towage went on at a speed of about nine knots an hour, with an easy strain on the hawser. During the night the wind and sea increased, and when they had passed Tungyung about midnight those on board of the "Hupeh" noticed that the "Aragonia" did not alter her course to the westward in the direction of Matsui, and accordingly concluded that the captain of the "Aragonia" had decided to continue the towage to Amoy. At about 1.30 p.m. on the 7th December the "Aragonia" signalled "Advisable tow to Hongkong because Amoy not before dark," to which the "Hupeh" replied "prefer outer harbour Amoy, entrance not difficult. Night signalling for anchoring I leave to your arrangement." The "Aragonia" then signalled "I shall make for anchorage, use every precaution." The two vessels passed Dodd Island at 6 p.m., and about one hour later those in charge of the "Hupeh" noticed the "Aragonia" altering her course to starboard rather suddenly in the direction of the Tsing Sue Light, and in consequence of this jerk the chain cable on the "Hupeh" which was connected with the towing hawser between the vessels parted and thereupon the "Hupeh" anchored promptly and the "Aragonia" some minutes later. In answer to paragraph six of the petition the defendants said: There was no difficulty in the towage during the period referred to and the two vessels proceeded comfortably before the wind and sea, and the steering of the "Hupeh" was good. There was no risk of the two ships losing connection provided that the steering was careful. The "Aragonia" was steered inside Ooksen Island, but the risks of navigation were not increased thereby. In answer to paragraph 7 of the petition the defendants said: The towage was resumed about 7.21 p.m. on the 8th inst. and both vessels anchored in the outer harbour at Amoy at 10.50 a.m. and subsequently the "Aragonia" towed the "Hupeh" to the back of Kulangsu with the assistance of a pilot, arriving in the inner harbour where the hawser was cast off and the tow completed at 11.5 p.m. The defendants admitted the truth of the allegations in paragraph 8 and 9 of the petition. They however did not admit the truth of any of the allegations in paragraph 10 of the petition. They denied that a heavy or any strain was put upon the "Aragonia," her hull, machinery or gear in rendering the said services. The defendants also denied that any risk of serious damage or any damage was incurred by her. The defendants admitted that extra labour and exertion were undergone by the master and crew of the "Aragonia" in consequence of the said services, but denied that danger was undergone by her master or crew. Save in so far as the admissions noted, the defendants denied the truth of each and every allegation in the petition. The defendants on 30th April, 1907 paid into Court the sum of \$9,365.80, being the equivalent at the then rate of exchange of £1,000, and the defendants said that under the circumstances this amount was sufficient to satisfy plaintiffs' claim.

Mr. Slade, having read the pleadings stated that there was no divergence between the parties except in the matter of signals.

Mr. Pollock—We are agreed upon the signals.

Mr. Slade remarked that there were no questions outstanding except the state of the weather.

Mr. Pollock—They say it was very rough.

His Lordship—They say it was very, very rough (Laughter).

His Lordship (to Mr. Slade)—They don't take the serious view of it that you do?

Mr. Slade—No.

Mr. Pollock—That is a common occurrence.

Mr. Slade having concluded his opening statement, evidence in support of the plaintiffs' claim was called.

The first witness Captain Ernst of the "Aragonia," gave evidence to the effect that he understood from the captain of the "Hupeh" that he wanted to be towed to Hongkong. They spoke to each other through the megaphone and he understood that was the nature of the request. He was of course not quite sure. Witness described the manoeuvres which preceded the fastening of the hawser, and indicated that a collision was narrowly avoided.

Mr. Pollock cross-examined witness as to the danger or otherwise of having taken the passage inside Ooksen Island, and witness said that in taking that passage it meant a certain 'risk' which he did not hesitate to take after having taken the risk of taking the "Hupeh" in tow.

The case was adjourned.

Tuesday, June 11th.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT), AND THE HON. MR. E. A. HEWETT (NAUTICAL ASSESSOR).

A SALVAGE CLAIM.

The action for salvage brought by the Hamburg-America Linie and the master and crew of the s.s. "Aragonia" against the China Navigation Company, Ltd., the owners of the s.s. "Hupeh" her cargo and freight, was continued. Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. G. Hastings of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the plaintiffs, while defendants were represented by the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master).

Captain Ernst, of the "Aragonia," having concluded his evidence, the Chief Engineer was called, and confirmed his testimony.

His Honour then asked Mr. Slade what he would say, in assessing a reasonable amount to be paid, was the value of the services rendered by the "Aragonia" going inside Ooksen, as that was the question the Assessor and he had to consider.

Mr. Slade, after deliberation, said he thought 10 per cent. of the value of the vessel should be paid in consideration of the danger and risk caused by the steamer going at night into unsurveyed waters.

Mr. S. Silverstone, agent of the charterers of the "Aragonia," deposed that the time lost to the "Aragonia" by the towing of the "Hupeh" was two days.

Mr. Pollock—But one was a Sunday. Don't you have to take out a permit to work on Sunday?

Witness—We do.

Mr. Pollock—Yes, and pay a fee of something like \$250?

Witness—We pay a fee of \$200.

Mr. Pollock—Are you in the habit of paying these fees for working on Sunday?

Witness—I am. When necessary, I get permits for steamers to work on Sundays.

Mr. Pollock was proceeding to address the Court for defence, when

His Lordship said—What we don't understand is why, if the "Hupeh" did ask to be towed to Matsui, and finding the "Aragonia" was not heading in that direction, the people on board the "Hupeh" did not at once protest and ask the "Aragonia" what she was doing?

Mr. Pollock—Well, my Lord, when speaking or signalling at sea one does not stop to argue and call each other names through the megaphone.

His Honour—How far will the megaphone carry?

Mr. Pollock—That depends upon the size of the megaphone.

Mr. Pollock continued his address in which he contended that there was no danger and risk incurred by the "Aragonia," and that she was entitled only to the usual towing charges in such circumstances, plus the cost of the extra charter money and extra coal.

Captain Mathias of the "Hupeh" said he had been on the China Coast since 1835 and had been in command of the "Hupeh" since 1903. He detailed the events of the 5th December last when the propeller shaft of the "Hupeh" broke. On the following morning he signalled the "Aragonia" and as she steamed abreast of the "Hupeh" the Captain asked witness where he wanted to be towed. Witness, speaking through the megaphone, answered "Matsui." The Captain of the "Aragonia" replied—"You must come on board and talk to me." Witness responded—"I consider the weather unfit for boarding." The Captain of the "Hupeh" then said—"I will do my best for you." Witness then noticed that the "Aragonia" drew ahead and came over towards the "Hupeh," passing close to the latter's bows. Witness did not consider it was necessary for the "Aragonia" to go as far as she did. She could have laid off the "Hupeh's" quarter. Witness illustrated his remarks with models.

The case was adjourned.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. A. G. WISE (PUNISHMENT JUDGE).

THE CONNAUGHT HOUSE.

Some time ago an action was brought by a number of Chinese against The Connaught House, but, as the Punishment Judge pointed out, bricks and mortar could not be sued. The writ was amended and the managing partner was summoned but on his declaring that he was only one of eight the writ was again amended. On this occasion a series of actions were heard. Butchers, bakers, compradores, and dairy men brought separate actions against the proprietors for goods supplied to the amount of \$349.61. The proprietors were Wong Fung Shek, Tsoi Sing, Li Wai Nam, Kwan Tsui Kwan, Nam Shui Tong, Lai Hop Kee, and Kwan Fuk Yuen, but only the second, fourth, sixth and eighth had been served. Only one man answered to his name and after judgment had been given against those who had been served it appeared

that other two were in court. When questioned why they had not answered to their names they stated that they thought it was only the other man who was on trial. His Lordship said he had a good mind to send them to gaol, but ultimately he heard their stories. All the defendants pleaded that their accountant had left them and they knew nothing of the accounts. His Honour told them that was their fault. When they asked for time he declined, saying that if he did so they would go into bankruptcy. Judgment was entered for the seven plaintiffs with costs.

Wednesday, June 12th.

IN ADMIRALTY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT), AND THE HON. MR. E. A. HEWETT (NAUTICAL ASSESSOR).

A SALVAGE CLAIM.

The action for salvage brought by the Hamburg-America Linie and the master and crew of the s.s. "Aragonia" against the China Navigation Company, Ltd., the owners of the s.s. "Hupeh" her cargo and freight, was continued. Mr. M. W. Slade (instructed by Mr. G. Hastings of Messrs. Hastings and Hastings) appeared for the plaintiffs, while defendants were represented by the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C., (instructed by Messrs. Johnson, Stokes and Master).

Captain Mathias continued his evidence. Referring to the parting of the wire towing rope, he stated that the "Aragonia" gave no indication of her intention to take the sudden turn to starboard which caused the rope to part. Cross-examined by Mr. Slade—Have you instructions in common with all captains in the employ of Butterfield and Swire that if anything happens to your ship you are not to request outside help but to wait until some of your ships come along?—I have not.

There is no rule or instruction of that kind. In your service?—I have never seen or heard of it.

Nothing of the sort?—No.

Are you quite sure of that captain?—I am on oath. I say I have never seen it nor heard it.

Witness expressed the conviction that though the "Hupeh" was exposed to the full force of a northeast monsoon on 6th December he could have ridden through the gale safely depending on his anchors.

You did not take the risk?—No.

You would not care to take the risk?—Witness did not reply.

You think the "Hupeh" with her anchor and chain could ride out any gale in the open sea?—A strong gale, yes.

And you would have no cause for anxiety?—No.

After being questioned as to the steering of the "Hupeh," and the difficulty of steering during the towing, Captain Mathias said that, although he was not in peril, he considered it his duty to signal for a tow.

Why?—The lives and property on board might be in peril.

And you considered, if you remained there, the lives and property in your care might be imperilled?—Yes.

Captain Innes, Marine Superintendent for the Company, valued the "Hupeh" at £18,000 and estimated that it would cost £25,000 to build a new ship like the "Hupeh."

Counsel addressed the Court and his Lordship reserved judgment.

Thursday, June 13th.

IN BANKRUPTCY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR FRANCIS PIGGOTT (CHIEF JUSTICE).

OPIUM DEALERS FAILURE.

Re the E. Yuen firm of opium dealers, Mr. Morrell, from the Crown Solicitors Office, said the firm had issued a notice suspending payment of debts. The assets amounted to \$200,000, and the liabilities to \$360,000. Sent to Chambers.

WITHDRAWN.

In the case of Esther Oliver, of the New Travellers Hotel, Mr. E. J. Grist said the

matter was adjourned with a view to a compromise being effected. The petition was filed because she was unable to carry on the business owing to the high rent. She had now come to terms with the landlord and with his Lordship's consent he would withdraw the petition. Granted.

AN ABSENT THIRD PARTY.

Re the bankruptcy of the Sze Long firm Mr. P. W. Goldring applied for the public examination to be closed. He questioned Tun Shun Tai as to the whereabouts of one Lun Shun, who was alleged to have deposited \$1,000 in a bank in which witness was interested. Examination closed.

BUILDING SPECULATIONS.

Connected with two firms, each of which failed, involving him in a total loss of \$60,000, Chun Hon Kai, publicly examined in bankruptcy, explained his losses.

Mr. Hursthouse, appearing for the creditors, asked debtor if he was not the owner of an inland lot which he mortgaged for \$80,000. There was a second mortgage for \$21,000, a third for \$25,000, a fourth for \$12,000, a fifth for \$8,000, and a sixth for \$5,000. He admitted having after that entered into a sale of the property free from encumbrances except the first mortgage and received \$10,000 bargain money.

Did you ever carry out your contract for the sale?—No, the transaction has not been completed.

Did you ever return the \$10,000 bargain money?—No.

Then they have paid you \$10,000 and got nothing for it?—That is so.

On the very day, 25th March, you executed a further encumbrance, a mortgage for \$8,000?—Yes.

And subsequently you executed a further encumbrance for \$5,000?—Yes.

Although, with the exception of the first, you had offered to sell this land free from encumbrances you put on other two encumbrances after receiving \$10,000 bargain money?—No that \$8,000 was borrowed before.

As regards the proposed sale you further encumbered the property which prevented you carrying out the contract?—Yes.

What did you do with all this mortgages money, \$15,000?—The first and second were handed over to me.

What did you do with the money from the third mortgage?—I bought a piece of land.

Did the whole of your land speculations turn out badly?—There was some profit. I made no profit within the last three years.

Do you expect there will be any surplus?—Yes.

From what?—From plot 423.

You know it has been sold by the first mortgagee?—Yes.

There is nothing left?—Yes.

How do you expect there will be a surplus from that?—I had half of it.

But nothing now will come to the estate from that?—Yes.

Mr. Hursthouse asked that a prosecution be directed.

The Official Receiver questioned debtor as to the sale of the land first mentioned. Debtor said he could have paid off the mortgagees if the sale had been allowed to go through. The property was sold by the creditors for \$140,000. Examination closed.

Mr. Hursthouse then made formal application that a prosecution be directed inasmuch as he had attempted to defraud his clients out of \$10,000.

His Honour—I don't think you will get a conviction on that.

A HOTEL-KEEPER'S FAILURE.

The public examination of R. Matthaey, late of the Occidental Hotel, Kowloon, was continued. Debtor said he was a civil and marine engineer. He took over the Hotel in 1904, having had no experience in that line before. He paid a deposit of \$500 and went into possession in January, spending over \$2,000 in painting and alterations. The rent was \$1,100 per month not including an extra \$50. The hotel, including the ground, would have cost about \$50,000. His takings amounted to \$4,000 or \$5,000 per month.

What were your expenses?—I do not know; I never had any money over.

Continuing, debtor said he put \$3,000 in cash into the business and later on \$900 more. He borrowed \$3,000 during the first year and \$6,000 during the second. When the Kowloon ferry wharf was changed it made a difference of from \$300 to \$400 per month. He had told the landlord that he could not pay the rent and a reduction of \$250 was talked of but never ratified. His liabilities amounted to \$28,600 and his estimated assets \$18,500, of which \$11,000 were book debts.

The examination was closed and the Official Receiver applied for adjudication, which was granted.

Mr. Kemp also applied for an allowance for the bankrupt. There was a sum of \$4,000 in cash in hand and about \$6,000 in small accounts still outstanding, which would be difficult to collect.

Mr. R. F. C. Master and M. D'Almada opposed the application unless a reasonable time were set as limited.

Mr. Grist supported the application, and His Lordship granted \$300.

CANTON.

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

June 12th.

ACCUMULATING BUSINESS.

The following is a translation of a notification issued by Viceroy Chou Fu:—

"This notification is issued by me (Viceroy Chou Fu). I have received a cablegram from Peking stating that the new Viceroy will leave Peking for Canton on the 2nd day of the 5th moon; in consequence of which the date for delivering over all provincial official affairs is approaching. The gentry and general public are requested to note that I will not receive any petitions on and after the 3rd day of the 5th moon. All gentry, merchant, and people of Kwang Tung and Kwangsi Provinces are requested to obey and respect this notification."

Viceroy Shum will find his hands full on arrival. I have it on the best of authority that numerous cases both foreign and Chinese have been shelved pro tem, and are awaiting the new Viceroy's arrival for settlement. This step is characteristically Chinese, and is becoming a great inconvenience all round.

SHUM'S APPROACH.

Local authorities received a telegram from Peking stating that Viceroy Shum would embark on the s.s. "Kwong Lee" at Chingwangtao for Canton on the 3rd day of the 5th moon and will proceed direct without calling at Shanghai. Viceroy Chou Fu received a telegram from the new Viceroy stating that the latter official heard that the present Kwong Chow Prefect is about to vacate his position and leave Canton and requesting H. E. Chou Fu not to permit Prefect Chan Mong Tsang to leave until his arrival.

PRESENTS.

Marquis Li, Lieutenant Tartar General here, has received ten pieces of silk and other valuable articles from H. M. the Empress Dowager as a present. A special official was delegated to Canton to deliver the present to Marquis Li.

KULANGSU (AMOY) MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

Minutes of a meeting of the Kulangsu (Amoy) Municipal Council, held at the Board Room, on the 21st May 1907.

Present:—Messrs. W. H. Wallace (Chairman) C. A. V. Bowra, A. F. Gardiner, Huang Tsan-chew, S. Okuyama, W. Wilson and the Secretary.

1. Mr. Wilson takes his seat, vice Mr. Marshall, resigned.

2. The minutes of the last meeting are read, and confirmed.

3. A letter is read from Mrs. T. C. Nicholls complaining of certain trees planted on the tennis ground. It is decided to inform Mrs. Nicholls that the trees were put up by the Council to provide a better light for the tennis players. That the trees at present cannot possibly be considered a nuisance, but if, in time to come, they should prove a source of annoyance, Mrs. Nicholls should approach the Council again on the subject when, no doubt, the Council will endeavour to meet her objections.

4. A letter is read from the American Consul complaining of inconvenience caused to passengers landing or embarking at San-ku-chau Jetty, owing to cargo boats blocking up both sides of the jetty. The Council decide to inform the American Consul that the matter has not been allowed to slide as he states but on the contrary has had the Council's most careful consideration, and that while they still consider that the trade interests of the Port come first, they will do what they can with cargo boat employers to see that a part of the Jetty is kept free for gigs and sampans.

5. The Superintendent of Police reports that complaints have been received that cattle are allowed to stray about the island during prohibited hours to the danger of the public—in two cases residents riding on the island have been attacked by buffaloes. He is directed to call the owners of the animals attention to the regulation forbidding the straying of cattle before 8 a.m. and after 4 p.m., at the same time pointing out the necessity of having coolies in charge who are capable of controlling the animals and whose duty it is to see the animals graze well away from the public roads. The Police are to be instructed to strictly enforce these orders.

6. On the motion of Mr. Bowra, the secretary is instructed to request the Commanders of Foreign War Ships visiting this Port to give instructions that when parties are landed on the beach for bathing, the men wear bathing costume.

7. The Secretary requests instructions as to granting permission to Commanders of War Ships to land parties for rifle and revolver practice on the range at Commissioners' Beach. It is decided, Mr. Bowra dissenting, to authorize the Secretary to grant such permission, providing the officer commanding the party so practising takes all precautions for the safety of the public.

8. The Superintendent of Police reports the following cases have been dealt with at the Mixed Court since the last meeting:—

SUMMONSES.

Debt 2, Breach of Municipal Regulations 8, Assault 2.

SUMMARY REEST.

Assault 4, Theft 1, Committing a nuisance 2.
(Signed) W. H. WALLACE,
Chairman.

By order,
C. BERKELEY MITCHELL,
Secretary.

OUTRAGE IN YUNNAN.

News has come to hand from Yunnan-fu, the capital of the province of Yunnan, giving particulars of a brutal attack that was made upon the Rev. Samuel Pollard of the Bible Christian Mission. The outrage was committed at a market village near Chaotung at midnight on April 8 by a band of men, Chinese and aborigines. On the following day Dr. Savin, of the same Mission, on being informed of the occurrence went to the village, where he found Mr. Pollard on the ground unable to move and in a very serious condition. On April 12 he was brought into the city, where he was made a little more comfortable, and hopes were entertained that his life would be saved. On April 19th Dr. Savin wrote:—"Mr. Pollard's body is covered with bruises. The most important injury is that to the lung. The left lung before the heart is wounded, and there is an escape of air into the surrounding tissues. Whether there is a broken rib I cannot tell. For the first few days he had to lie full length upon his face, but now he can wriggle from one side to the other and can lie upon his back. It will be some time yet before he can leave his bed and longer still before he can recover from the serious shock."

The reason for this dastardly attack is not known. Mr. Pollard was on an itinerating missionary journey and had put up for the night in the village where the attack took place. He has worked for many years in Yunnan and has gained the respect and esteem of very many of the people who have come to know him. The N.-C. Daily News understands that the British Consul at Yunnanfu is in communication with Peking in reference to the affair.

COMMERCIAL.

The Yokohama Prices Current and Market Report, published by the Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade, and dated May 30th, 1907, has the following:—

IMPORTS.

Yarns.—More enquiry; but little or no actual business. Shirtings.—No business yet, but an early improvement is generally looked for. Fancy Cottons and Woollens.—Market remains dull. Metals.—On the whole there seems to be a more confident tone in the metal market and some signs of easing in the financial situation. Dealers have not yet turned their attention seriously, however, to forward business and enquiries are by no means brisk. Kerosene.—The market is dull. Sugar.—In sympathy with reported high values on the Continent and elsewhere the market is firm, but the business is confined to Sugar for which there is an actual trade demand owing to buyers' disinclination to lay in a heavy stock at the present moment. Indigo (Natural).—No business.

TEA.

Since the 15th instant the market has remained steady with average offerings and ready buyers. Supplies are apparently scarce, and the lower grades are especially hard to obtain. Total settlements from May 1st to May 29th amount to 44,857 piculs, against 43,237 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

GENERAL EXPORTS.

Copper.—No change. Fish Oil.—A few more transactions are reported at about Yen 8.50 per 100 kin, and the market closes very firm.

SILK.

During the fortnight under review Europe has been trying to buy such lots as could be found passable for export, with the result that the general tone of our market improved considerably, and that prices for available Silks advanced by about Y.50 per kin; but holders demanding still higher figures things have again become very quiet at the close. Prospects for the new crop are excellent, and it is already estimated that from 115,000 to 120,000 bales will be available for export during the coming season, but this figure must of course be taken with all reserve as nothing can as yet be known about the summer and autumn crop of cocoons. Some small deals in new cocoons have taken place quite recently at prices corresponding to about Y.1,250 for No. 1-1½ Sinshiu Filatures.

WASTE SILK.

Market unchanged. Settlements from May 14th to May 29th 500 piculs. Total Settlements from July 1st to May 29th:—57,600 piculs. Stock on May 30th is estimated at 5,400 piculs, viz:—Noshi, 800 piculs; Kibizzo, 3,600 piculs; Pierced Cocoons,—piculs; Sundries, 1,000 piculs.

YARN.

There has been much more doing throughout the past fortnight than during the previous two weeks, but the market has been entirely unhinged by the keen competition amongst importers to quit stock. Prices have further receded 50 cents to \$2 per bale, and although the decline has been partially recovered in special instances, owing to scarcity, the market may be termed unsteady and irregular. The enquiry has been general and almost all counts have been dealt in, but as No. 10s are comparatively much cheaper in value and may be said to have almost touched bottom considerable attention is being paid to this count. Receipts during the interval have exceeded the off-takes and our stock shows a small increase on last estimate. Bombay is reported strong.

Sales of the interval aggregate 7,665 bales, arrivals amount to 11,565, unsold stock estimated at 68,000, and sold but uncleared yarn at 35,000 bales.

Local Manufacture:—No business has transpired.

Japanese Yarn:—Continues in demand, and 100 bales No. 16s and 230 bales No. 20s are reported to have changed hands at \$120 and \$121 to 131 respectively.

Raw Cotton:—The market is almost lifeless for both Indian and China kinds and the only business reported during the interval comprises the sale of 24 bales Bengal at \$20, and of 90 bales Shanghai at \$23. Unsold stock 1,700 bales Indian and 450 bales China. Quotations are \$17 to 20 Indian and \$22 to 23½ Chinese.

Exchange on India has shown signs of weakness and after some fluctuation closes steady to-day at Rs. 163½ for T/T and Rs. 164 for Post. On Shanghai 73½ and on Japan 107½.

The undernoted business in imported and local spinnings is reported from Shanghai during the fortnight ended the 8th instant, viz:—

Indian:—With a moderate enquiry the market is firm with advancing prices, sales amounting to about 6,000 bales and stock estimated at 140,000 bales.

Japanese:—Market firm but little doing, sales amounting to 1,500 bales on the basis of Tls. 86 to 91½ for No. 16s, and Tls. 91½ to 98 for No. 20s.

Local:—No business from first hands is reported.

PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade, dated Shanghai, 8th June, 1907, states:—The air of depression that was hanging over the market last week when we wrote our Report has lifted somewhat, we are pleased to say, and there certainly does not appear to be the same necessity to hold such pessimistic views of this market as seemed then to pertain to it. Satisfactory arrangements have been made by the firms concerned to manipulate the goods thrown back on their hands, mentioned last week, with the assistance of the local financiers, the result being that the market feels relieved and is in a decidedly more hopeful condition. This is evidenced by the increasing enquiry for goods in stock although from the ideas the dealers hold of prices they have not as yet fully appreciated the changes that have taken place in the producing centres during their recent period of hibernation. The consequence is no fresh transactions have taken place from first hands, but second hand holders are managing to get better terms. More and more confidence is being expressed that the condition of the market will be greatly improved after the settling day on the 15th inst., and that may account for the nibbling sort of enquiry that is going on, which may possibly be for the sole purpose of finding out what supplies are in hand and the ideas of holders as to prices. In the case of some classes of fancy goods small orders for fresh supplies have actually been placed. There have also been some clearance sales of fancy goods, of a sort that is greatly over stocked, namely common Figured Cotton Lastings. Three years ago these goods were in great demand for Szechuen, and in anticipation of a continuation of it heavy quantities were indented for by the native dealers, and now compose fully one half of the stock held here. The Szechuen market is glutted, and the colours wanted there are not suitable for other places, the consequence being it is quite impossible to move these goods at anything like their original cost, let alone the interest and charges that have accumulated. Three years ago they were selling at Tls. 3.90 a piece—now it is difficult to obtain Tls. 2.50! And other things are in the same position. However, it is cheering to note prospects are excellent for the silk crop, and the harvests everywhere are most promising, which should enable the country to recover from some of its recent heavy losses. Money certainly seems to be very plentiful by the way the natives are endeavouring to get concessions to build railways, etc., without the aid of foreign capital, but at the same time in some districts millions have died from starvation, what relief has reached them being through the instrumentality of foreigners. The Manchester market seems to be feeling the advance in the raw staple now much more than formerly, and spinners are getting late with their contracts, possibly owing to the scarcity of suitable cotton, although it may be they have over booked themselves. Meanwhile manufacturers are very strong and are full of work for months ahead. Cotton in Liverpool commenced to advance immediately after our last until 7.42d. was quoted for Mid-American, but has receded to 7.35d., yesterday's quotation, while 'Futures' are now 6.93d. This advance appears to have affected Egyptian also, 10½d. being the price received to-day. New York quotations for the new crop are 11.92 cents for October and 12.10 cents for Jan. The return shipment made by the s.s. Shimosa to New York were 7,500 pieces Grey Shirtings, 16,960 pieces Sheetings and 9,960 pieces each 35 and 40 yard Jeans. It is difficult to find out what more has been shipped as yet. Last month's export of Plain Cottons from England to China and Hongkong amounted to 27,000,000 yards, while the Yarn shipped to Hongkong and Shanghai was 1,200 bales. The falling off in the export was most marked during the second half of the month, which possibly betokens a decrease from now on. The Yarn market is quiet and there is but little doing, though at the close a firmer feeling set in. Cotton is rather inclined to advance in spite of the higher exchange and lack of demand by the mills. The current business during the interval is almost entirely credited to the auctions and second hand holders. At the former there was a much better feeling shown on the whole, though perhaps not very regular throughout

Grey Shirtings of all weights were decidedly firmer, but White Shirtings have scarcely followed suit yet. Turkey Reds and fast black cotton Italians went at distinctly higher prices, and woollens showed a firm tendency especially at this morning's sale. Cotton Yarn.—Indian.—The demand during the interval has continued very quiet with a lower tendency, owing to the firm position of the silver market. What business has been done is apparently fairly well distributed, the bulk, however, consisting of No. 20s. in comparatively small parcels, at steady prices for favorite spinnings, the buying being for Chefoo,

SHARE REPORTS.

HONGKONG, 14th June, 1907.—The market has shown more signs of activity during the week under review, and with a more varied assortment of dealings rates have more than maintained their position; in fact it looks as if bed-rock has been reached in most stocks, and even a continuation of the small demand which has existed during the week would be sufficient to, at least, prevent any further fall in most stocks. Exchange on London T/1 2/2½, on Shanghai 73½.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have ruled with sellers at \$880, but a few small lots have changed hands at that rate, and the market closes fairly steady but with a few shares still on offer. Nationals remain unchanged and without business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions remain unchanged with buyers at 750, and no sales or sellers to report. China Traders have been placed at \$90, and more are wanted at that rate. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong continues neglected, and although we have no business to report the market continues fairly steady at quotation. Chinas have improved to 85, after sales at 84½, the market closing firm at the former quotation.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have changed hands in small lots at 29½, and close with further buyers at that rate. Indo-Chinas continue a dead letter. Douglases have found buyers at 40, and more shares could probably be placed at that rate. Shell Transports, after sales at 45s., close in demand at 46s. consequent on a demand from London. We have nothing further to report under this heading.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have continued weak, and the rate has fallen without sales to 107, at which shares can be obtained at the time of closing. Luzons continue out of the market.

MINING.—Charbonnages, with a small demand have again risen to \$480, but no shares appear to be available. Raubs have ruled firmer, and with no shares to meet the demand the rate has improved to \$6½ with sales and further buyers.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have found small buyers at 107, but the market closes with further sellers at that rate. Humphrey's Estates have been done in fair lots at 10½, and Kowloon Lands have found further buyers at 37. Hotels and West Points continue totally neglected.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks, after small sales at 102, fell further to 100, at which latter rate a fair number of shares changed hands; later, however, the market recovered, and with a demand at the lower rate which met with no response buyers offered higher rates, and at time of closing we quote 103, with probable buyers at a little higher. Kowloon Wharves. The ruling rate has continued at 80 sellers, but in the absence of buyers, and with some shares offering from the outports, the rate fell temporarily, and sales were effected at under that rate. The market however quickly recovered and at time of closing we have to report small sales at 78 & 79 with no further sellers under 80. Shanghai Docks have further receded in the North to 76, at which the latest advices make them weak. Hongkew Wharves have ruled steady during the week, and close in Shanghai at 224.

COTTON MILLS.—Ewos have advanced to 62½ (per advices by the mail from Shanghai), and Laou Kung Mows to 87½. Internationals and Soy Chees, on the other hand, have declined to 51 and 325, respectively.

MISCELLANEOUS.—China Providents have found further buyers at 8.90, and close rather firmer with no sellers under 9.00. Dairy Farms have receded to 15 with sellers and no sales to

report. Cements remained at 15 during the early part of the week, and a good many shares are reported to have changed hands at that rate. Towards the close, however, the demand at 15 continuing, and no more shares being procurable, the rate rose to 16, at which a fair number of shares have also changed hands. The closing rate is 16 sellers. Langkats have improved to 297½. Peak Tramways have been placed at 11, and close with sellers at that rate.

Quotations are as follows.—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Alhambra	\$200	\$120
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai..	\$125	\$880, sales & sel. London, £98
National B. of China A. Shares	£6	\$51
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	12s. 6d.	\$7, sellers
China-Borneo Co.	\$12	\$9½, sellers
China Light & P. Co.	\$10	\$6½, sellers
China Provident	\$10	\$9, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 50	Tls. 62½
Hongkong	\$10	\$11½, sellers
International	Tls. 75	Tls. 51
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 87½
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 325
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$15, sellers
Docks & Wharves—		
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$80, sellers
H. & W. Dock	\$50	\$104, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$11½, buyers
Shanghai Dock and Eng. Co., Ltd.	Tls. 100	Tls. 76
S'hai & H. Wharf	Tls. 100	Tls. 224
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$17½, sellers
G. Island Cement.	\$10	\$16, sellers
Hongkong & C. Gas	\$10	\$175, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$14½, buyers
Hongkong Hotel Co.	\$50	\$118, sellers
Hongkong Ice Co.	\$25	\$245
Hongkong Rope Co.	\$10	\$20, buyers
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$280, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$85, buyers
China Traders	\$25	\$90, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$325, sellers
North China	£5	Tls. 75
Union	\$100	\$750, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$170, buyers
Land and Buildings—		
H'kong Land Invest.	\$100	\$107, sales & sel.
Humphrey's Estate	\$10	\$10½, sales
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$37, sellers
Shanghai Land	Tls. 50	Tls. 103
West Point Building	\$50	\$48
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fes. 250	\$480, buyers
Raubs	18, 10	\$6½, sales & buy.
Peak Tramways	\$10	\$11, sales & sel.
Philippine Co.	\$10	\$5
Refineries—		
China Sugar	\$100	\$107, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$21, sellers
Steamship Companies		
China and Manila	\$25	\$15½, sellers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$40, sales & buy.
H. Canton & M.	\$15	\$29½, buyers
Indo-China S.N. Co.	\$10	\$71, sellers
Shell Transport Co.	\$1	\$46, buyers
Star Ferry	\$10	\$26, sellers
Do. New	\$5	\$16½, sellers
South China M. Post.	\$25	\$23, sellers
Steam Laundry Co.	\$5	\$7
Stores & Dispensaries.		
Campbell, M. & Co.	\$10	\$20, sellers
Powell & Co., Wm.	\$10	\$8, sellers
Watkins	\$10	\$4, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$11½, sellers
United Asbestos	\$4	\$10½, buyers
Do. Founders	\$0	\$150
Union Waterboat Co.	\$10	\$12½, sales

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Share Report for the week ending June 7th, 1907, states:—The Settlement for May took place on Friday, the 31st ultimo, but being a very small one did not influence the course of business in any way. The week has been a very quiet one as usual at present, and rates have not altered very much in the meantime. T. T. to-day on London is 2sh. 11½d. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banks have declined to £98 in London and the market here closes with sellers at \$880. Marine and Fire Insurance.—North China Insurance. A sale has been made at Tls. 75. Yangtze Insurance Shares are wanted at \$165. Shipping.—There is no business reported and no interest is taken in this stock. Shanghai Tugs. Shares have changed hands this week at Tls. 46, for the ordinary, and Preference shares are on offer at Tls. 50. Docks and Wharves.—Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd. After the Settlement a spasmodic inquiry set in and cash shares have been dealt in since at Tls. 80, Tls. 81, Tls. 82 and Tls. 84. At this latter rate shares came out and the demand has suddenly ceased. Subsequently a sale for December was made at Tls. 84. Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. The last advice from Hongkong quote this stock at \$105 sellers. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares. We cannot give a reliable quotation for cash, as the market is somewhat unsettled, but business has been done at Tls. 222½, Tls. 223, and Tls. 224, closing steady at about these rates. For September the market closes with buyers at Tls. 232½ and sellers at Tls. 235. For December Tls. 237½ has been done. Yangtze Wharves close with sellers at Tls. 212½. Sugars.—No business reported. Mining.—No business reported. Shanghai Lands.—Sales have taken place at Tls. 101 and Tls. 100 for the ordinary shares and Tls. 99 for the new shares. There are buyers at these rates. Industrial.—Ewo Cottons. A sudden demand has arisen and the rate has advanced to Tls. 63 closing with buyers. International cotton have been placed at Tls. 52½ for September and Tls. 52 for Dec. Laou Kung Mows. Shares have changed hands at Tls. 81 for cash. Shanghai Gas Co., close with buyers at Tls. 106. China Flour Mill. A parcel is on offer at Tls. 65. Maatschappij &c., in Langkats. There is no business whatever to report in this stock. Cash shares remain at Tls. 287½ and there is very little doing. Anglo-German Brewery shares are wanted at \$87½. Miscellaneous.—Astors have been dealt in at \$28.50. S. Moutrie & Co. A few buyers at \$49 are in the market. Hotel des Colonies are on offer at Tls. 13½. Shanghai Horse Bazaars are wanted at Tls. 45. Shanghai Mutual Telephones have declined to Tls. 59 closing with sellers. Loans and Debentures.—Six per cent. Municipal Debentures have been placed at Tls. 99. Shanghai Land 6 per cent. have been dealt in at Tls. 98.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, June 14th.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	2/2½
Bank Bills on demand	2/2½
Bank Bills at 30 days' sight	2/2½
Bank Bills at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/3½
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills on demand	277
Credits 4 months' sight	282
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	225½
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills on demand	52½
Credits 60 days' sight	54½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	163½
Bank on demand	164
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	163½
Bank on demand	164
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank at sight	73½
Private, 30 days' sight	74½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	107½
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	107½
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	6½ p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—On demand	131½
ON HAIPHONG.—On demand	4½ p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—On demand	4 p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—On demand	67½
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate	\$ 9.05
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per toel	\$ 7.70
BAR SILVER, per oz	30½

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

June—

ARRIVALS.

- 9, Hupeh, British str., from Amoy.
 9, Singan, British str., from Hoihow.
 10, Alesia, German str., from Cebu.
 10, Amoy, German str., from Kin Hon.
 10, Benarty, British str., from London.
 10, Hunan, British str., from Iloilo.
 10, Istok, Austrian str., from Bombay.
 10, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.
 10, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., from Japan.
 10, Kiang Ping, Chinese str., from Chinkiang.
 10, Malacca, British str., from Hankow.
 10, Oceanien, French str., from Yokohama.
 10, Peleus, British str., from Liverpool.
 10, Phranang, German str., from Bangkok.
 10, Rabi, British str., from Manila.
 10, Samsen, German str., from Bangkok.
 10, Sydney, French str., from Marseilles.
 10, Taikosan M., Jap. str., from Kutchinotzu.
 10, Taishan, British str., from Saigon.
 10, Tjikini, Dutch str., from Batavia.
 10, Vircaya, American str., from Iloilo.
 10, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., from Melbourne.
 11, Ceylon, British str., from Bombay.
 11, Flintshire, British str., from Shanghai.
 11, Hakata Maru, Jap. str., from London.
 11, Hangsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 11, Helene, German str., from Hoihow.
 11, Kiukiang, British str., from Shanghai.
 11, Kumano Maru, Jap. str., from Nagasaki.
 11, Laisang, British str., from Calcutta.
 11, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 11, Minos de Batan, Am. str., from Iloilo.
 11, Tatsu Maru, Jap. str., from Kobe.
 11, Thinhohiku Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 11, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.
 12, Amigé, German str., from Haiphong.
 12, Delta, British str., from Singapore.
 12, Forest Dale, British str., from Sourabaya.
 12, Fukushima Maru, Jap. str., from Pratas Id.
 12, Haiching, British str., from Foochow.
 12, Johanne, German str., from Sourabaya.
 12, Joshi Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 12, Knivsberg, German str., from Macao.
 12, Lydia, German str., from Chinkiang.
 12, Norman Prince, Brit. str., from Keelung.
 12, Orange Branch, Am. str., from Manila.
 12, Pitsanulok, German str., from Bangkok.
 12, Promethus, Nor. str., from Bangkok.
 12, Shakano Maru, Jap. str., from Saigon.
 12, Taishang, British str., from Wakamatsu.
 12, Taiwan, British str., from Saigon.
 13, Bourbon, French str., from Swatow.
 13, China, Am. str., from San Francisco.
 13, Progress, German str., from Iloilo.

June—

DEPARTURES.

- 10, Anghin, German str., for Swatow.
 10, Nikkai Maru, Japanese str., for Hongay.
 10, Sydney, French str., for Shanghai.
 11, America Maru, Jap. str., for San Francisco.
 11, Benarty, British str., for Nagasaki.
 11, Fukushima Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 11, Haimun, British str., for Coast Ports.
 11, Hangsang, British str., for Swatow.
 11, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 11, Hilary, German str., for Batavia.
 11, Hinsang, British str., for Hongay.
 11, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 11, Kenkon Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
 11, Kwangtai, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 11, Machew, German str., for Bangkok.
 11, Malacca, British str., for London.
 11, Oceanien, French str., for Saigon.
 11, Sexta, German str., for Saigon.
 11, Tango Maru, Japanese str., for Keelung.
 11, Tean, British str., for Manila.
 11, Yingphow, British str., for Swatow.
 12, Aldershot, British str., for Labuan.
 12, Capri, Italian str., for Singapore.
 12, Ceylon, British str., for Moji.
 12, Dagoy, Norwegian str., for Chefoo.
 12, Derwent, British str., for Saigon.
 12, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Hongay.
 12, Kamakura Maru, Jap. str., for Singapore.
 12, Kisagata Maru, Japanese str., for Saigon.
 12, Lightning, British str., for Singapore.
 12, Paoting, British str., for Tientsin.
 12, Peleus, British str., for Shanghai.
 12, Yawata Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 12, Yesan Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 13, Aikoku Maru, Jap. str., for Chefoo.
 13, C. Michelsen, Nor. str., for Shanghai.
 13, Cheongahing, British str., for Chefoo.

- 13, Chunsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 13, Clara Jebson, German str., for Saigon.
 13, Fausang, British str., for Moji.
 13, Flintshire, British str., for Singapore.
 13, Fri, Norwegian str., for Hong-y.
 13, Hsinchang, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 13, J. Diederichsen, German str., for Pakhoi.
 13, Lydia, German str., for Canton.
 13, Singan, British str., for Haiphong.
 13, Skramstad, Norwegian str., for Tourane.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per *Haiching*, from Foochow, &c., Mrs. Saunders, and Mr. Gallon.
 Per *Luisang*, from Calcutta, &c., Dr. Falka, Messrs. Hughes and Holmes.

Per *Kiukiang*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Morpheu and 4 children, Mr. Phillips.

Per *Oceanien*, for Hongkong, from Kobe, Messrs. J. M. Monfrier and J. Hoyes; from Shanghai, Messrs. P. Oppenbueggen, Palek Wiber, H. Utley, A. E. Guttierrez, Lewis Poits, Hayden, J. A. Fowler, A. Winkorill, Vallong, Vidal, Oda, Sika, Mokamaton Mounofon, Karum Singh, Badah Singh, Herisson, Cassel and Argel.

Per *China*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Harris, Mr. and Mrs. H. Parrish, Lt. and Mrs. W. H. Johnson, Mrs. D. H. Hare, Mrs. Margaret Lees, Mrs. F. R. Lewis, Miss M. L. Garrett, Miss Gertrude Neeley, Miss G. L. McCash, Messrs. P. W. Darrow, H. W. Wickman, R. S. Mogan, K. F. Meunch, E. J. Snyder, J. F. Thompson, I. Thomas, E. Owen and J. L. Pearson and servant.

Per *Delta*, from Bombay, for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Myers, Mr. and Miss Macgregor Smith, Mrs. C. J. Jessawalla, Capt. W. T. de Rosa, His Excellency Wang Tahsieh, Messrs. G. S. Lindell, J. C. Jessawalla, D. S. Jessawalla, M. S. Joseph, A. Burton, J. P. Kenrick, A. F. Davis, McChlosky, Brown and nurse servant, R. D. Stafford, Hoilm, S. S. Mariar and nurse servant, J. E. Salmon, Sauval Dass and nurse servant, G. G. Millar, A. Rothery, S. Khan and C. S. Halleem.

Per *Sydney*, for Hongkong, from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Wahr and 3 children, Messrs. Tattara and Lawlet; from Saigon, Messrs. Minami, Nicolas, Antonio Siniana, Mrs. Annamite and child; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. Blanchet, Miss Vredinger, Miss Vallony; from Djibouti, Mr. Vinson Moite; from Bombay, Messrs. Miller, Glick, Guthrie; from Singapore, Mr. Krans; from Saigon, Mr. and Mrs. Delyi, Mr. M. Gouchat and Stavios, Mr. Meyer; for Kobe, from Yokohama, Mr. Plumet; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. Robson, Mrs. Laurent and child, Miss Médard; from Bombay, Mr. and Mrs. Ociod and 2 children, Messrs. Hirjee, Fooljaram, Geo. Scarf and Guil.

Per *America Maru*, from San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. M. Muehnic, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. M. Milne, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Hoffman, Mr. and Mrs. R. Zeuner, Mr. and Mrs. C. Carrigan, Rev. and Mrs. W. F. Crafts, Capt. and Mrs. P. W. Gunney, Mrs. L. B. Miller, Mrs. L. J. Meyers, Mrs. I. J. Dugan, Mrs. E. A. Benson, Mrs. B. D. Mulligan, Mrs. G. K. Wilder, Mr. M. Kelly, Mrs. French Kaufmann, Miss E. Bass, Miss M. A. Garvie, Miss Etta R. Gregory, Miss L. M. Rogers, Miss E. L. Barnes, Miss C. B. Scharff, Miss Kaufmann, Dr. G. E. Neson, Capt. L. M. Gulick, Messrs. A. B. Doe, C. B. Meyers, P. A. Garvie, Ira A. Gardiner, Wm. Kohrs, F. M. Brooks, H. Mannheim, C. S. Betton, Walter S. Jones, J. C. Mahan and child, J. A. Schubert, J. H. Brown and F. Griolias.

Per *Syria*, from London, for Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Gilbert, Mr. J. L. Walby, for Kobe, Mr. J. O. Bamber; for Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. Tarrant and two infants and nurse, Mrs. Grey, Master E. Evans, Mr. J. M. Dakin; from Singapore, for Shanghai, Mr. W. S. Young; from London, for Manila, Messrs. R. S. France, W. N. Juncos; from London, for Hongkong, Com. M. H. Penfold, Capt. and Mrs. Moultrie and infant, Messrs. W. Burgess, De Sales, Mrs. Penfold, Mr. S. T. Ryan, Mr. J. Pearson, Mr. & Mrs. Sethbridge, Lieut. A. F. Jones, Dr. E. Green, Messrs. B. T. Smart, J. D. Forrest, Capt. and Mrs. G. A. Parke and two children, and amah, Mrs. Thomson & two infants; from Singapore, Messrs. N. Phillips, S. G. Phelps; from Brindisi, Mr. D. Hale; and from Port Said, Mr. D. B. Smith.

Per *Rubi*, from Manila, Mr. and Mrs. Rivera, Mrs. C. W. Hassler, Miss I. Villaneuve, Miss Katharine Smith, Capt. A. H. Thomas, Rev. A. Rodrigues, Messrs. M. Villaneuve, J. Saleado, P. W. Nygath, E. He ti, J. Trangout, J. Miller, B. Pingdingolas, Cheok Sin, G. Harling and F. A. Chopard.

Per *Kamakura Maru*, from Japan, Mr. and Mrs. O. Samuel, Mr. and Mrs. Withy, Mrs. P. Harrison, Miss Yatea, Major Chitty, Messrs. J. C. Lawe, K. Morikawa, Th. Metzelthin, Koshotei, Kyokihei, J. Nagawa, S. Moirs and W. Gaulbourn.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Melbourne, Mr. and Mrs. Reebard, Mr. and Mrs. Cliford, Mrs. D. Christie, Mrs. W. A. Cox, Mrs. L. M. Johlin, Miss B. Cliford, Miss Keating, Dr. W. M. Strong, Dr. J. Donelan, Messrs. U. S. Gilman, H. W. Slade, H. Hasell and Cox.

Per *Hakata Maru*, from London and Singapore, for Hongkong, Mrs. J. Shaw, Miss B. Gomershall, Messrs. K. B. Chyr, K. L. Thiam, F. Hollen, Y. F. Hu, Braby, L. Chew Pin, T. Burnett, Y. Ying, W. Leang and F. Yen; for Kobe, Mrs. P. G. Wolley, Messrs. T. Nohara and K. Hama; for Yokohama, Capt. and Mrs. E. B. North, Miss M. Horeley, Lt.-Col. G. Wright, Messrs. H. R. Hunt and H. Bridges.

Per *Kumano Maru*, from Nagasaki, for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. D. Todo, Mr. and Mrs. H. Yamamura, Messrs. John Arnhold and Charles Nugnet; for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Crock, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. McWilliams, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Button, Capt. and Mrs. S. D. Buttler and infant, Miss C. K. Bowie, Miss E. M. Peters, Capt. W. D. Chitty, Lieut. Comder. J. H. Rawen, Messrs. G. Kogirima, S. Miyamoto, A. K. Livicka and S. Misaka; for Townsville, Mr. Walter Camelon; for Brisbane, Mr. and Mrs. I. H. Bingham; for Sydney, Mr. and Mrs. R. Baba, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Hume, Mr. and Mrs. Milton King, Mr. and Mrs. G. G. Kiss and infant, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Fagan, Mrs. F. R. C. Hopkins, Miss King, Miss V. King, Miss Kiss, Miss Nancy Kiss, Miss M. Thurn, Miss Myra Wood, Messrs. R. Fagan and R. C. Hopkins; for Melbourne, Miss C. J. Mc Colman, Messrs. John Cook & D. C. Mc Colman.

DEPARTED.

Per *Yawata Maru*, from Hongkong, for Japan, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Austin, Mr. and Mrs. Richard, Dr. and Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. John Millis and 3 children, Mrs. Anderson and 2 children, Mrs. Kobayashi, Miss Takahashi, Dr. Stocks, Dr. Ito, Rev. Griffith, Madame Ramon Ramirez, Madame Tongnoir, Messrs. U. S. Gilman, C. Gubanzi, D. Bell, Singleton, H. S. Cornfoot, C. F. Jarman, J. S. Wheeler, J. H. Gibson, J. F. Ramirez, J. E. Ramirez, Chas. Tongnoir, Topman, T. Tettamanzi, G. Kumabe, C. K. Chan, C. K. Wa and Hama.

Per *Tango Maru*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, &c., Mr. and Mrs. P. F. Foss, Mr. and Mrs. Carrigan, Mr. and Mrs. Boanas and child, Mr. and Mrs. Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. Oliver, Mr. and Mrs. Heaton-Ellis, Mr. and Mrs. Preston, Rev. and Mrs. Anderson and child, Rev. and Mrs. Tadd, Mrs. Laura Van Praag, Mrs. Wooley, Mrs. H. Pangborn, Mrs. C. E. Wilson, Mrs. Phinney, Mrs. Kiene, Miss Calamo, Miss Geary, Dr. W. M. Strong, Dr. Hartley, Capt. Thomas, Messrs. Sallens, Spencer, Willis Gaddie, J. P. McGraw, Rosenthal, F. L. Halt, R. W. Turner, A. Lawles, W. C. Webb, Chas. H. Inman and J. Paolini.

Per *America Maru*, from Hongkong, for San Francisco, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. M. Milne, Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Hoffman, Mr. Mrs. and Miss Kirkpatrick, Mr. and Mrs. R. Zenner, Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Myers, Capt. and Mrs. R. W. Guiney, Mrs. S. M. Fox, Mrs. L. B. Miller, Mrs. L. J. Myers, Mrs. S. J. Lashbrooke, Mrs. G. K. Wilders, Mrs. E. A. Benson, Mrs. E. A. Holmes, Mrs. C. W. Hassler, Miss Idah J. Dugan, Miss E. L. Barnes, Miss Etta R. Gregory, Miss Haber, Miss J. Fearon, Miss D. Fox, Miss L. R. Rogers, Miss E. Bass, Miss Mable A. Garvie, Miss E. B. Schuff, Rev. L. L. Henson, Dr. Warker, Dr. A. B. Doe, Commauder Winthrop, Messrs. P. A. Garvie, B. Schaap, P. G. Mygatt, J. L. Whelan, J. E. Bien, Ira O. Gardner, T. G. Robbers, J. B. Floyd, M. S. Moses, L. F. Haber, F. Lawrence and A. H. Hasell.

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